REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS and SCIENCES (BASc)

These regulations apply to students admitted to the BASc curriculum in the academic year 2021-2022 and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)

Definitions

ASC1[1] In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of BASc, unless the context otherwise requires
'Course' means a course of study, with a credit value expressed as a number of credit-units as specified in the syllabus.
'Credits' means the value assigned to each course to indicate its study load relative to the total load under a degree curriculum. The study load refers to the hours of student learning activities and experiences, both within and outside the classrooms, and includes contact hours and time spent on assessment tasks and examinations.
'Pre-requisite' means a course or a group of courses which candidates must have completed successfully or a requirement which candidates must have fulfilled before being permitted to take the course in question.

Admission to the degree

ASC2 To be eligible for admission to the degree of BASc, candidates shall
(a) comply with the General Regulations;
(b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
(c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with the regulations and the syllabuses.

Period of study

ASC3 The curriculum shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies.

Curriculum requirements and progression in curriculum

ASC4
(a) Candidates shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula[2], except that in the case of the Common Core Curriculum, only 24 credits shall be required, with one course from each Area of Inquiry.
(b) Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits of courses.

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[1] This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG 1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

[2] Specific requirements are spelt out in the syllabuses. Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), or equivalent, are exempted from taking "CAES1000 Core University English". In exceptional circumstances, strong candidates who have achieved Level 4 may be considered for admission to the curriculum but they will be required to take "CAES1000 Core University English" as supplementary credits and complete 246 credits for graduation from the University.

(c) Candidates shall successfully complete not fewer than 96 credits of courses for the major in Interdisciplinary Studies, including 12 credits of core courses, 12 credits of capstone experience requirement, 60 credits of Pathway courses and 12 credits of Internship.
(d) Candidates shall successfully complete 18 credits of BASc core courses.
(e) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies, or except in the final semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements may be fewer than 24 credits.
(f) Candidates may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, and/or further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of Studies, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 288 credits for the normative period of study specified in ASC3, save as provided for under ASC4(g).
(g) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of Studies may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 432 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in ASC3.
(h) Candidates shall not enrol in any introductory courses in the final year of study.

Selection of courses

ASC5 Candidates who wish to change their selection of courses at the beginning of each semester may do so up to 2 weeks after the commencement of the semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons accepted by the Board of Studies, and candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade.

Assessment

ASC6 Candidates shall be assessed in each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 8 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

ASC7 Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner
(a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
(b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
(c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
(d) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

ASC8 Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading.

ASC9 There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

Discontinuation of studies

ASC10 Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:

(a) failed to complete 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or

(b) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or

(c) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in ASC3.

Absence from examination

ASC11 Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examinations of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall normally be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

Advanced standing

ASC12 Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully in an approved institution of higher education before admission to the curriculum in accordance with UG 2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Advanced credits shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

Credit transfer

ASC13 Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of Studies, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

Award of the degree

ASC14 To be eligible for award of the degree of BASc, candidates shall have successfully completed the curriculum requirements as stipulated under Regulation ASC4:

(a) achieved a Graduation GPA of 1.00 or above;

(b) passed a minimum of 240 credits, including the capstone experience and 18 credits of BASc core courses; and

(c) satisfied the requirements in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Honours classification

ASC15

(a) Honours classification shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class

Honours, Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree in accordance with the following Graduation GPA (GGPA) scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values:

Class of honours	GGPA range
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

(b) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the degree may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in ASC15(a) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.

(c) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the degree requirements shall be posted on Faculty noticeboards.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this curriculum is to equip outstanding students with social and cultural intelligence, creative problem-solving (both qualitative and quantitative) skills and communication skills, and nurture them to apply interdisciplinary knowledge within a larger framework of ethical and social responsibility in addressing contemporary issues. This is an intrinsically integrated curriculum co-led and shared by the Faculties of Social Sciences, Arts, and Science.

On successful completion of the curriculum, students should be able to:

1. understand concepts and theories from the science, social sciences, arts and humanities to develop innovative ideas to address multifaceted problems in our increasingly interconnected world;
2. analyse and use the major theories in the new interdisciplinary fields;
3. apply the necessary critical thinking, creative problem solving and communication skills for effective work and collaboration with people from diverse backgrounds, and facilitate self-reflection and great understanding of others; and
4. harness the interdisciplinary knowledge and theory to improve human conditions and promote global citizenship.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

1. The regulations specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for completion of the BASc degree curriculum. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses. Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits. They shall enrol in not fewer than 24 and not more than 30 credits of courses for each semester other than the final semester as specified in ASC4. The normal semester load is 30 credits.

2. For the fulfilment of Regulation UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula "Requirements for Graduation", candidates shall complete successfully the two language enhancement courses and four Common Core Courses from different Areas of Inquiry.

   Candidates are required to complete 18 credits of BASc core courses.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Component	No. of credits
Interdisciplinary Curriculum (Major in Interdisciplinary Studies)*	96
1) Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies I and II	12
2) Interdisciplinary Capstone Course	12
3) Courses from Two Pathways (60 credits)	
a. Cultures/ Societies	30
b. Physical World/ Biological/ Human Sciences	30
4) Internship (Social Innovation requirement)	12
Common Core Courses	24
Language Enhancement Courses	12
BASc Core Courses	18
Electives Courses (or Second Major)	90
Total:	240^

* This programme will not be offered to non-BASc students as a second major.
^ Candidates who are not exempted from Core University English (CUE) will be required to take CUE as supplementary credits and will thereby be required to accumulate 246 credits for graduation from the University.

Common Core Courses (24 credits)

Candidates are required to complete 24 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum within the first three years of studies, comprising one from each Area of Inquiry.

Enhancement Courses (12 credits)

Course	Language	Credits	Year of study
English in the Discipline	English	6	2 - 3
Chinese	Chinese	6	2

Take one of the following English in the Discipline courses (6 credits)

- CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery
- CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports
- CAES9930. Research Writing in the Social Sciences
- CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures
- CAES9820. Academic English for Science Students
- CAES9821. Professional and Technical Communication for Mathematical Sciences

Take one of the following Chinese Enhancement courses (6 credits)

- CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students
- CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students
- CSCI9001. Practical Chinese for Science Students
- CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong society (for Putonghua-speaking students)
- CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (for Putonghua-speaking students)

Candidates who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take the Chinese language enhancement course may apply to the Board of Studies for exemption and take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international and exchange students), or take an elective course in lieu.

BASc Core Courses (18 credits)

Candidates are required to complete 18 credits of the following core courses. These courses are to be jointly taken with students from all of the 4-year BASc curricula.

Course	Title	Credits	Year of study
BASC9001	Foundations of Human Knowledge	6	1
DESN9002	Sustainable leadership	6	1
STAT1005	Essential skills for undergraduates: foundations of data science	6	2

Interdisciplinary Curriculum (Major in Interdisciplinary Studies) (96 credits)

Candidates are required to take the following core courses:

Course	Title	Credits	Year of study
BASC1001	Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies I	6	1
BASC1002	Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies II	6	1
BASC3001	Interdisciplinary Capstone Course	12	4

Internship (Social Innovation requirement) (12 credits)

Candidates are required to complete FOSS2018, or a combination of **two** 6-credit endorsed experiential learning courses for fulfilling the 12-credit Social Innovation requirement.

Course	Title	Credits	Year of study
FOSS2018	Social Innovation Internship	12	Has to be completed by the end of the second semester of the final year of study
FOSS2024	Experiential Learning I – Field Immersion	6	
FOSS2025	Experiential Learning II – Advanced Praxis	6	

Courses from Two Pathways (60 credits)

Within each Pathway (a. Cultures/ Societies; b. Physical World/ Biological/ Human Sciences), students have to complete five elective courses (at year 1-4 level) across all three faculties. Specifically, they cannot take more than two courses from the same faculty for each pathway, or more than four courses from the same faculty in total for both pathways. While these are existing courses, academic tutors will work with candidates to integrate the material into an interdisciplinary perspective. While some courses are listed on both Pathways, a successful completion of any one of these courses will count towards the requirement of one Pathway only.

Candidates would have the opportunity to write their own study plan, to take courses outside of the two prescribed pathways, if they demonstrate a convincing ability to devise and follow a well-articulated study plan, as approved by the Board of Studies.

1. Cultures / Societies pathway

A. Faculty of Arts[3]

Introductory Courses

CHIN1103.	Introduction to standard works in modern Chinese literature (6 credits)
CHIN1115.	Study of the Confucian canons and modern society (6 credits)
CHIN1118.	Introduction to classical Chinese literature (6 credits)
CHIN1119.	Introduction to literary studies (6 credits)
CHIN1120.	Global approaches to Chinese literature (6 credits)
CHIN1124.	Chinese dialects and sociolinguistics (6 credits)
CHIN1125.	Trends of modern Chinese literary thoughts (6 credits)
CHIN1126.	Introduction to classical Chinese popular literature (6 credits)
CHIN1203.	Chinese history and culture in the twentieth century (6 credits)
CHIN1206.	Introduction to Chinese thought (6 credits)
CHIN1207.	Traditional Chinese culture (6 credits)
CHIN1211.	Economic and social development in China (6 credits)
CHIN1213.	Folklore and modern Chinese culture (6 credits)
CHIN1214.	Chinese and western cultures: a comparative study (6 credits)
CHIN2127.	Classical Chinese fiction (6 credits)
CHIN2241.	History of Chinese civilization (6 credits)
CLIT1008.	Ways of reading: Film, literature, and culture (6 credits)
CLIT1009.	Introduction to postcolonialism and culture (6 credits)
CLIT1010.	Ways of thinking about culture and society (6 credits)
ENGL1014.	Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)
ENGL1016.	Introduction to life writing (6 credits)
ENGL1017.	Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1024.	Topics in world literature (6 credits)
ENGL1025.	Understanding narratives (6 credits)
ENGL1033.	Intercultural communication (6 credits)
ENGL1034.	Language and prejudice (6 credits)
ENGL1037.	Persuasion (6 credits)
ENGL1042.	World Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL1052.	Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)
FINE1001.	Introduction to Western art history (6 credits)
FINE1006.	Art and society (6 credits)
HIST1016.	The modern world (6 credits)
HIST1019.	Powering modern society: Energy, environment and politics (6 credits)

[3] Many of Faculty of Arts courses are only offered every few years.

LCOM1001. Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)
LCOM1002. Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)
LING2056. Sociolinguistics (6 credits)
MUSI1004. Introduction to musics of the world (6 credits)
PHIL1034. Ethics and politics, East and West: an introduction to philosophy (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

CHIN2149. Chinese language from social perspectives (6 credits)
CHIN2164. The *Analects* and Chinese culture (6 credits)
CHIN2175. Historical-Comparative Linguistics and Chinese Dialectology (6 credits)
CHIN2176. Chinese Children's Literature (6 credits)
CHIN2234. History of Chinese political institutions (6 credits)
CHIN2243. History of Chinese science and civilization (6 credits)
CHIN2266. History education and Chinese culture (6 credits)
CHIN2268. History of China-West cultural exchanges (6 credits)
CHIN2273. Socio-economic history of China (6 credits)
CHIN2278. Travel and economic development in Chinese history (6 credits)
CLIT2007. Film culture I (6 credits)
CLIT2016. The body in culture (6 credits)
CLIT2026. Digital culture (6 credits)
CLIT2045. Colonialism/ postcolonialism (6 credits)
CLIT2050. Globalization and culture (6 credits)
CLIT2052. Chinese urban culture (6 credits)
CLIT2064. Hong Kong culture: Popular arts and everyday life (6 credits)
CLIT2065. Hong Kong culture: Representations of identity in literature and film (6 credits)
CLIT2083. Film art, language and culture (6 credits)
CLIT2085. Hong Kong: Community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)
CLIT2087. Modern Chinese culture and society: Rebellions and revolutions (6 credits)
CLIT2088. Critical approaches to film studies (6 credits)
CLIT2097. Independent documentaries: Theory and practice (6 credits)
ENGL2002. Language in society (6 credits)
ENGL2030. New Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL2045. Travel writing (6 credits)
ENGL2074. Postcolonial readings (6 credits)
ENGL2075. The idea of China (6 credits)
ENGL2097. Imagining Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2103. Language and digital media (6 credits)
ENGL2120. Science fiction(6 credits)
ENGL2123. Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2129. English as a language of science (6 credits)
ENGL2134. World literature (6 credits)
ENGL2136. Cross-cultural discourses (6 credits)
ENGL2138. Language and globalization (6 credits)
FINE2051. Art, politics, and society in modern China (6 credits)

FINE2055. Crossing cultures: China and the outside world (6 credits)
FINE2056. Museum studies workshop (6 credits)
FINE2080. Art in conflict (6 credits)
HIST2031. History through film (6 credits)
HIST2077. Eating history: Food culture from the 19th century to the present (6 credits)
HIST2110. China and the West (6 credits)
HIST2112. Technologies of empire: Science, medicine and colonialism (6 credits)
HIST2129. Living through war: Society, culture and trauma (6 credits)
HIST2138. Humanity in crisis: Humanitarianism in the modern world (6 credits)
HIST2150. Global capitalism: The last 100 years (6 credits)
HIST3065. Workshop in historical research (6 credits)
LCOM2005. Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)
LCOM2008. Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)
PHIL2140. Philosophy of social science (6 credits)

B. Faculty of Science

Introductory Courses

BIOL1201. Introduction to food and nutrition (6 credits)
BIOL2101. Principles of food chemistry (6 credits)
EASC1401. Blue Planet (6 credits)
EASC1403. Geological heritage of Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENVS2001. Methods in environmental science (6 credits)
ENVS2002. Environmental data analysis (6 credits)
PHYS1056. Weather, climate and climate change (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

ENVS3004. Environment, society and economics (6 credits)
BIOL3216. Food waste management (6 credits)
BIOL3217. Food, environment and health (6 credits)
BIOL3218. Food hygiene and quality control (6 credits)

C. Faculty of Social Sciences

Introductory Courses

GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)
SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)
SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)
PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)
PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

GEOG2078.	Urban geography: growth, function and pattern of cities (6 credits)
GEOG2132.	World cities (6 credits)
GEOG2030.	Global development (6 credits)
GEOG2133.	Cities and migrants (6 credits)
GEOG3423.	Social and cultural perspectives in understanding cities (6 credits)
GEOG3417.	Health, wellbeing, place and GIS (6 credits)
POLI3010.	Democracy and its critics (6 credits)
POLI3020.	Hong Kong politics (6 credits)
POLI3097.	Modernity and globalization (6 credits)
PSYC2019.	Psychology of personality (6 credits)
PSYC2020.	Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)
PSYC3052.	Advanced social psychology (6 credits)
SOWK2109.	Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)
SOCI2044.	Economic sociology (6 credits)
SOCI2053.	Youth culture (6 credits)
SOCI2067.	Crime and the media (6 credits)
SOCI2071.	Criminology (6 credits)
SOCI2077.	Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)
SOCI2080.	Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)
SOCI2081.	Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)
SOCI2084.	Globalization and culture (6 credits)
SOCI2087.	Urban society and culture (6 credits)
SOCI2091.	Sociology of culture (6 credits)
SOCI3069.	Crime and the city (6 credits)

2. <u>Physical World / Biological / Human Sciences pathway</u>

A. Faculty of Arts

Introductory Courses

HIST1019.	Powering modern society: Energy, environment and politics (6 credits)
HIST1020.	Introduction to the history of gender and sexuality (6 credits)
LING1000.	Introduction to language (6 credits)
LING1004.	Language structure for language learning (6 credits)
LING2004.	Phonetics: Describing sounds (6 credits)
LING2009.	Languages of the world (6 credits)
LING2034.	Psycholinguistics (6 credits)
PHIL1012.	Mind and knowledge: an introduction to philosophy (6 credits)
PHIL1068.	Elementary logic (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

CHIN2177.	Chinese Lexicology (6 credits)
ENGL2166.	English phonetics (6 credits)

CLIT2016. The body in culture (6 credits)
CLIT2058. Histories of sexuality (6 credits)
FINE2056. Museum studies workshop (6 credits)
FINE2102. The connecting sea: An introduction to Mediterranean archaeology (6 credits)
HIST2048. The history of childhood and youth (6 credits)
HIST2077. Eating history: Food culture from the 19th century to the present (6 credits)
HIST2112. Technologies of empire: Science, medicine and colonialism (6 credits)
HIST2115. Sports and Chinese society (6 credits)
HIST2116. Oceans in history (6 credits)
HIST2122. The history of sport in modern Europe (6 credits)
HIST2137. Pandemic!: Contagious histories (6 credits)
HIST2140. Health, medicine and society in late imperial and modern China (6 credits)
HIST2141. Reproduction and culture in the modern world (6 credits)
HIST2172. Revolutionizing health in modern China (6 credits)
HIST3027. Natural disasters in history, 1700 to present (6 credits)
HIST3065. Workshop in historical research (6 credits)
LCOM2008. Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)
LING2036. Child language (6 credits)
LING2037. Bilingualism (6 credits)
LING2048. Language and cognition (6 credits)
LING2053. Language and the brain (6 credits)
LING2055. Reading development and reading disorders (6 credits)
LING2062. Linguistic research methods (6 credits)
LING2065. Endangered languages: Issues and methods (6 credits)
LING2066. Variation analysis (6 credits)
LING2067. Natural language processing (6 credits)
LING2068. Computational approaches to language (6 credits)
LING2069. Origins of language (6 credits)
LING2070. Historical linguistics: Languages, genes and human migrations (6 credits)
MUSI2059. Music and the mind
PHIL2000. Tools for Philosophers (6 credits)
PHIL2045. Subjectivity (6 credits)
PHIL2100. Paradoxes of decision (6 credits)
PHIL2101. Paradoxes of Cooperation (6 credits)
PHIL2105. Vagueness, indeterminacy, and uncertainty (6 credits)
PHIL2110. Knowledge (6 credits)
PHIL2115. Skepticism and relativism (6 credits)
PHIL2130. Philosophy of science (6 credits)
PHIL2140. Philosophy of social science (6 credits)
PHIL2210. Metaphysics (6 credits)
PHIL2217. Issues in contemporary metaphysics (6 credits)
PHIL2220. The mind (6 credits)
PHIL2230. Philosophy and cognitive science (6 credits)
PHIL2245. Philosophy and emotions (6 credits)
PHIL2310. Theories of morality (6 credits)
PHIL2312. Probability, epistemology, and ethics (6 credits)

PHIL2315. Value theory (6 credits)
PHIL2320. Happiness (6 credits)
PHIL2341. Bioethics (6 credits)
PHIL2369. Philosophy of nature (6 credits)
PHIL2510. Logic (6 credits)
PHIL2511. Paradoxes (6 credits)
PHIL2520. Philosophy of logic (6 credits)
PHIL2900. Formal epistemology (6 credits)

B. Faculty of Science
Introductory Courses

BIOL1110. From molecules to cells (6 credits)
BIOC2600. / Basic biochemistry (6 credits) OR
BIOL2220. Principles of biochemistry (6 credits)
BIOL1201. Introduction to food & nutrition (6 credits)
BIOL2306. Ecology and evolution (6 credits)
CHEM1042. General chemistry I (6 credits)
CHEM2441. / Organic chemistry I (6 credits)
CHEM2442. Fundamentals of organic chemistry (6 credits)
EASC1401. Blue Planet (6 credits)
EASC2401. Fluid/solid interactions in earth processes (6 credits)
EASC2404. Introduction to atmosphere and hydrosphere (6 credits)
ENVS1401. Introduction to Environmental Science (6 credits)
PHYS1056. Weather, climate and climate change (6 credits)
PHYS1055. How Things Work (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

BIOL3204. Nutrition and the life cycle (6 credits)
BIOL3205. Human physiology (6 credits)
BIOL3401. Molecular biology (6 credits)
BIOL3402. Cell biology and cell technology (6 credits)
BIOL3403. Immunology (6 credits)
BIOL4411. Plant and food biotechnology (6 credits)
CHEM3141. Environmental chemistry (6 credits)
CHEM3242. Food and water analysis (6 credits)
CHEM3441. / Organic chemistry II (6 credits) OR
CHEM3442. Organic chemistry of biomolecules (6 credits)
EASC3415. Meteorology (6 credits)
ENVS3010. Sustainable energy and environment (6 credits)
ENVS3020. Global change ecology (6 credits)
ENVS3042. Pollution (6 credits)
ENVS4110. Environmental remediation (6 credits)

C. Faculty of Social Sciences

Introductory Courses

GEOG1003. Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)
GEOG1020. Modern Maps in the Age of Big Data (6 credits)
PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)
PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment I (6 credits)
SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life (6 credits)
SOWK1015. Introduction to social policy and social development (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)
GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)
GEOG2126. Globalizing China: the land and the people (6 credits)
GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)
GEOG2138. Hong Kong's environment: issues and policies (6 credits)
GEOG2150. Introduction to China’s environmental and sustainable development issues (6 credits)
GEOG3205. Environmental hazards (6 credits)
GEOG3207. Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)
GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)
GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)
POLI3039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)
POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)
POLI3121. Environmental policy (6 credits)
PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)
PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)
PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)
PSYC2062. Introduction to Psychopathology (6 credits)
PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)
PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)
PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)
PSYC2101. Foundations of neuroscience I (6 credits)
PSYC2102. Seminars in neuroscience (6 credits)
PSYC2110. Developmental neuroscience (6 credits)
PSYC2111. Neurobiological basis of psychological issues (6 credits)
PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)
PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)
PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)

Besides fulfilling the above requirements, it is optional for candidates to pursue another major or minor. Another major is defined as completing successfully not fewer than 72 nor more than 96 credits of courses in a particular programme including all pre-requisites unless otherwise specified. Candidates may opt for another major offered by the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Social Sciences or other Faculties, and may choose to overload by 6 credits for a 96-credit major.

(For detailed requirements of majors and course descriptions, please refer to the syllabuses of the respective programmes.)

Note:

(a) Course registration will take place before the commencement of each semester. Candidates are advised to consult relevant teachers on the suitable combinations of courses and to adhere closely to the normal study pattern. Less suitable combinations of courses may not be permitted because of timetabling difficulties. Courses listed in the syllabuses may not necessarily be offered every year; depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered.
Candidates may change their course selection during the two-week add/drop period which is scheduled at the beginning of each semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable by the Board of Studies. Candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade. In course registration, candidates should pay special attention to the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of courses as specified in the syllabuses. A prerequisite is a course which candidates must have completed in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the Head of Department before being permitted to take a course in question. A co-requisite is a course which candidates must take at the same time as the course in question.

(b) Candidates should complete the Common Core Courses, language enhancement and the introductory courses by the end of the sixth semester.

(c) Candidates should ensure that they have taken the relevant introductory course(s) for the subject in which they intend to major.

(d) For the major and minor programmes, course selection is subject to the compliance with prescribed requirements and acceptance by the Heads of Department/staff concerned.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Interdisciplinary Curriculum Courses

BASC1001 Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies I (6 credits)

BASC1002. Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies II (6 credits)

Being able to articulate our ideas as well as making effective analysis of issues via the use of qualitative and quantitative methods or mixed-method play an important role in many disciplines. The course will cover: 1) The study of epistemology in an interdisciplinary context – "knowing the world through the qualitative and quantitative perspective", 2) Methodological approaches of investigation (e.g., phenomenological and anthropological studies, mathematical modelling and essential programming skills), and 3) Specific topics for demonstration purpose which include but not limited to programme evaluation, gender study and performance arts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

BASC3001. Interdisciplinary Capstone Course (12 credits)

This capstone course aims at providing students in final year an opportunity to produce a larger, independently formulated and executed, project; students explore research methods from across the Social Sciences, Science, Arts and Humanities. Typically, students are allocated a supervisor who will support them to identify a topic of interest and is relevant to their disciplinary major. Students will be involved in small group discussion, student presentation and pursuing an original project (under supervision) in primary and secondary sources, developing interdisciplinary skills. Assessment is by 100% coursework, which may include a research essay, graded research exercises, field work or lab reports and write-ups, and class participation, with a total output of approximately 10,000 words.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

BASc Core Courses

BASC9001. Foundations of Human Knowledge (6 credits)

How does knowledge emerge from different disciplines? What is the nature and limit of knowledge generated by different methods? This foundations course will open up an interdisciplinary discourse about knowledge building and integration in arts and humanities, social sciences, and sciences. It will consist of three parts:

1. A philosophical and historical perspective of human knowledge.
In this part students will engage in debates about the nature of knowledge, ways of knowing, and integrating knowledge. Students will also study how certain forms of knowledge formation have become dominant in our society, and learn how humans have come to know what we know today about ourselves and our planet.

2. From knowledge to judgement.
Knowledge is not just about information and facts. Knowledge calls for wisdom to interpret data and to make decisions about how to act upon them; it also requires critical reflections about the human condition and our roles and responsibilities as individuals and as a collective. In this part of the course, we will examine moral principles and ethical dilemmas during the process of building and responding to knowledge.

3. Knowledge sharing.
We will look at traditional and creative methods of knowledge dissemination, and explore opportunities and challenges in knowledge transfer in the information society. This course will help students build a solid foundation on knowledge creation, sharpen their critical thinking skills when they confront new information and ideas, and prepare them to become effective analysts and communicators of knowledge.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DESN9002. Sustainable leadership (6 credits)

"Leadership" often conjures up images of hierarchy, the top down power that creates unnecessary tension between the haves and the have nots. Such leadership can exacerbate social inequalities, alienation and environmental destruction. In a society that is increasingly connected, and evolving ever rapidly, this form of centralised concentrated leadership cannot answer to change fast enough.

So, what kind of leadership do we need to guarantee humans are best able to care for and support each other and the environment? What are the other models of leadership we need? Where will this change come from? How will we adapt and evolve the current conception of leadership towards a more sustainable world? What is the difference between "leadership", "Thought Leadership" and "Sustainable Leadership"?

It is clear that our generation has the duty to reinvent leadership and implement it in society overall. The University of Hong Kong Bachelor of Arts and Science (BASc) are uniquely positioned to address such questions galvanising strong domain knowledge in science, technology, finance, design and social sciences.

Hong Kong and the world needs a new generation of leaders that understand empathy, interdependency, that is creative, resilient, visionary, and highly cooperative. Such qualities are better learned by experience than merely by theory. Not only is it about acquiring knowledge, but it is really about creating the knowledge about the new form of leadership we need.
Assessment: 100% coursework

STAT1005. Essential skills for undergraduates: foundations of data science (6 credits)

The course introduces basic concepts and methodology of data science to junior undergraduate students. The teaching is designed at a level appropriate for all undergraduate students with various backgrounds and without pre-requisites.

Students will engage in a full data work-flow including collaborative data science projects. They will study a full spectrum of data science topics, from initial investigation and data acquisition to the communication of final results.

Specifically, the course provides exposure to different data types and sources, and the process of data curation for the purpose of transforming them to a format suitable for analysis. It introduces elementary notions in estimation, prediction and inference. Case studies involving less-manicured data are discussed to enhance the computational and analytical abilities of the students.
Assessment: 100% coursework

English Language Enhancement Courses

CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery (6 credits)

This course aims to enhance students' public speaking skills through understanding the influences of great speeches on social thought and political movements and through analysing

the argument structures, rhetorical devices as well as language choices of a range of classic speeches or speech texts. Students will acquire deeper insights into the processes that persuasion and argumentation. Student also have opportunities to apply the rhetorical skills and techniques to improve their speaking skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports (6 credits)

In this course students will explore the broad genre of report and proposal writing and the sub-genres of reports and proposals within the social sciences from both academic and professional perspectives. It focuses on the rhetorical functions, moves and linguistic patterns of different types of reports and proposals. Through a case-based collaborative approach students will investigate social issues and identify genre features while engaging in critical discussions with each other.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

CAES9930. Research Writing in the Social Sciences (6 credits)

This course aims to help year 3 students in Geography, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology (and any other Social Sciences programmes) to develop writing skills essential for independent learning projects (such as capstone projects and final year theses or dissertations). Students will be introduced to the principles underlying research as well as academic writing for projects involving collection and analysis of empirical data. They will also be given practice opportunities to apply these in their own writing.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures (6 credits)

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA and BASC students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, American Studies, Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, China Studies, Comparative Literature, European Studies, Art History, Global Creative Industries, Hong Kong Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, a modern language, and Music. The primary aim of CAES9201 is to enable students to read texts on cultures, history and politics, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

CAES9820. Academic English for Science Students (6 credits)

This six credit English-in-the-Discipline course will be offered to second year students studying in the Science Faculty. This course will help students develop the necessary skills to use both written and spoken English within their studies. Students will learn to better communicate and spontaneously discuss general and scientific concepts within their division, with other scientists as well as to a larger audience. Particular emphasis will be placed on

enabling students to identify their own language needs and develop appropriate self-learning strategies to improve their proficiency.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 55% essay, 25% test.

CAES9821 Professional and Technical Communication for Mathematical Sciences (6 credits)

This 6-credit English-in-the-Discipline course aims to develop students' professional and technical communication skills for disciplinary studies in mathematical sciences. There are three main components in the course: 1). Case study report writing, 2). professional oral presentation. and 3). independent language learning. Students will learn rhetorical skills for presenting and explaining mathematical and statistical data and trends, and justifying analyses and recommendations convincingly in both written and spoken communication. This will be achieved through analysing samples of case study reports and presentations using a genre-based approach. Students will also be given an opportunity to design a personalised language learning plan, carry out the plan and reflect on their own independent language learning experience.
Assessment: 40% assignments, 30% project report, 30% presentation.

Chinese Language Enhancement Courses

CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided.
Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students (6 credits)

This course is designed to enhance the students' competence in the use of Chinese in the workplace. It helps students to master the techniques of writing different types of practical writings such as emails, business letters, brochures, leaflets, reports and proposals. There are drilling practices to familiarize the students with simplified Chinese characters frequently used in the workplace context. This course will be offered in the second semester of the third year.
Assessment: 40% professional writing practices, 10% tutorial discussions, 50% examination.

CSCI9001. Practical Chinese for Science Students (6 credits)

This course aims to enhance the students' competence using Chinese for professional communication. It helps the students to master the techniques of writing different types of documents such as memos, emails, letters, announcements, notice, brochures, leaflets, and

reports. In addition, topics addressing presentation and discussion techniques, the style and rhetoric of reader-based writings are included to heighten the students' linguistic sensitivity.
Assessment: 50% assignment, 50% examination.

CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society *(for non-Cantonese Speaking Students)* (6 credits)

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students *(for non-Cantonese Speaking Students)* (6 credits)

Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course enables students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong Chinese, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Mandarin, to strengthen their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and people in Hong Kong.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

Internship Course

FOSS2018. Social Innovation Internship (12 credits)

To fulfil the graduation requirement under the theme of 'Social Innovation', students will begin their local or non-local internships after completing the intensive training workshops. They will be placed in local/international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organizations during term time or the summer. They will be supervised and assessed by both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

Social Innovation Internships seek to enhance students' understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience, and through applying knowledge and skills to real life situations. Students are expected to be socially aware and to have strong analytical, interpersonal and communication skills. On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work-related experiences, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work-related experiences. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FOSS2024. Experiential Learning I – Field Immersion (6 credits)

Experiential Learning I (EL-I) – Field Immersion is taken as a co-requisite of Experiential Learning II (EL-II) – Advanced Praxis. Students should complete EL-I first (or concurrently) to consolidate experiential learning through authentic workplace participation and guided reflection. The course EL-I provides the experiential foundation for theory-informed academic integration in Experiential Learning II.
The course provides structured and supervised internship experience in non-governmental, corporate, or government organisations aligned with social science disciplines. Through workplace immersion, students develop technical skills (e.g., data analysis, professional writing) and professional attributes such as ethics, initiative, adaptability, and workplace communication, while gaining first-hand exposure to organisational, social, and policy contexts and how social issues are encountered and addressed in practice.

The course emphasises learning through participation, observation, and guided reflection, and serves as the experiential foundation for academic integration for Experiential Learning II - Advanced Praxis.
While primarily designed for workplace internships, the course may also be offered through approved and supervised fieldwork experiences, subject to course requirements.
Assessment: 100% coursework
Co-requisite: FOSS2025

FOSS2025. Experiential Learning II - Advanced Praxis (6 credits)

Experiential Learning II (EL-II) – Advanced Praxis is taken as a co-requisite of Experiential Learning I (EL-I) – Field Immersion. Students typically complete Experiential Learning I (EL-I) (or concurrently) to consolidate their experiential learning through structured workplace participation and guided reflection. Building on this foundation, (EL-II) focuses on advanced praxis — the critical integration of practice, theory, and reflection.
Drawing on internship or equivalent professional out of classroom experience, students engage in systematic analysis of workplace practices, organisational dynamics, and social innovation and social or policy issues using relevant social science theories, concepts, and analytical frameworks.
The course emphasises sense-making, judgement, and articulation of learning, supporting students' ability to translate experience into academically grounded and professionally meaningful insights. Through structured academic activities and integrative assessments, students develop the capacity to critically evaluate practice and position themselves as reflective and socially responsive emerging professionals.
Assessment: 100% coursework
Co-requisite: FOSS2024

Faculty of Arts

Students are advised to refer to the BA syllabuses for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.

Faculty of Science

School of Biomedical Sciences

Introductory Course

BIOC2600. Basic biochemistry (6 credits)

This course is designed to present an overview of biochemistry of fundamental importance to the life process. We aim to develop appreciation of the basics in biochemistry as a common ground for science and non-science students to progress into their areas of specialization. Students intending to pursue further studies in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology will find this course particularly helpful.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 60% examination, 20% test.
Prerequisites: Pass in BIOC1600 or BIOL1110 or ENGG1207; and not for students who have passed in BIOL2220 or MEDE2301, or have already enrolled in these courses.

School of Biological Sciences

Introductory Courses

BIOL1110. From molecules to cells (6 credits)
(Students who wish to take this course are expected to have taken HKDSE Biology and/or Chemistry or equivalent. For students without HKDSE Chemistry, they are encouraged to take CHEM1041 concurrently or before.)

This course aims to provide basic conceptual understanding of the biology of molecules and cells to underpin later studies in applied biology, genetics, biochemistry, nutrition, biotechnology, microbiology, plant and animal physiology and developmental biology.
Assessment: 60% examination, 40% test.

BIOL1201. Introduction to food and nutrition (6 credits)

To enable student to appreciate the multidisciplinary nature of the study of Food and Nutrition. From the farmer's field to the dinner table, a basic understanding of the general properties of macro and micronutrients food production, processing and storage will be covered. Food safety, food selection behaviour as well as balanced nutrition as part of life style instrumental to good health will be discussed.

This is an independent course which can be taken by students from various disciplines. It also prepares students for further studies in Food and Nutritional Science.
Assessment: 30% assignments, 70% examination.

BIOL2101. Principles of food chemistry (6 credits)

To provide a basic understanding of chemistry in food systems, and to provide practical training in chemistry related to food science and nutrition.
Assessment: 30% assignments, 50% examination, 20% test.
Prerequisites: Pass in BIOL1201; and NOT for students who have passed in BIOL3201. The course is only for students admitted in 2017-2018 or thereafter.

BIOL2220. Principles of biochemistry (6 credits)

This course is designed to provide undergraduate (non-biochemistry major) an overview of fundamental concepts in biochemistry as well as hands-on experience in biochemical techniques.
Assessment: 60% examination, 10% laboratory reports, 30% test.
Prerequisites: Pass in BIOL1110; and not for students who have passed in BIOC2600, or have already enrolled in this course.

BIOL2306. Ecology and evolution (6 credits)

The interaction between organisms and their environment is addressed using an issue-based approach in order to explains how the ecology of plants and animals has been shaped by evolution through interactions with their living and non-living environment. The course also demonstrates how we can understand and explain the significance of what we see in nature using scientific methods. A field course component provides the opportunity to investigate how the environment influences community composition, biodiversity and adaptive radiation in a variety of habitats.
Assessment: 30% assignments, 70% examination.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL1110 or BIOL1309 or ENVS1301 or ENVS1401.

ENVS2001. Methods in environmental science (6 credits)

To introduce students to a broad spectrum of field and laboratory methods for data collection in environmental science. Through exposure to environmental data collection, experimental design, data analysis, interpretation and reporting, students will gain a deeper appreciation of the process that underlies environmental science research and it's relevancy to critical thinking and future careers in the sciences.
Assessment: 10% assignments, 20% laboratory reports, 20% presentation, 50% project reports.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL1309 or EASC1401 or ENVS1301 or ENVS1401.

ENVS2002. Environmental data analysis (6 credits)

To provide students with the ability to analyse data; especially data which are relevant to issues and questions in environmental science. This course will enable students to accurately interpret, organize, display, test and analyse environmental data. The course will also introduce students to principles of a variety of important advanced approaches in analysing environmental data

including spatial analysis, geographic information systems, remote sensing, risk assessment, and time series analysis.
Assessment: 25% examination, 25% project report, 50% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL1309 or EASC1401 or ENVS1301 or ENVS1401.

Advanced Courses

BIOL3204. Nutrition and the life cycle (6 credits)

Nutritional needs vary throughout different stages of the life cycle. This course aims to cover the functional roles of essential macro- and micro-nutrients and highlight the nutritional concerns during specific times of growth, development, and aging.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 20% essay, 60% examination.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL3202.

BIOL3205. Human physiology (6 credits)

The course covers major aspects of the physiology of the human body using an integrated approach. After completing this course, students will have acquired fundamental principles of how the body works. Students interested in nutrition and human biology will find this course most useful.
Assessment: 70% examination, 30% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOC2600 or BIOL2103 or BIOL2220 or MEDE2301.

BIOL3216. Food waste management (6 credits)

To allow students to develop an understanding of the propagation, treatment and disposal of food waste relevant within the farm to table chain. To allow students to critically evaluate food waste management and resource recovery potential in Hong Kong in comparison to other countries in Asia/Worldwide.
Assessment: 10% assignments, 60% examination, 30% project reports.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL2101 or BIOL3201.

BIOL3217. Food, environment and health (6 credits)

A cross-disciplinary exploration of the environmental, socio-economic, public health and personal nutrition contexts of food systems. To focus on how our food choices influence the environment and how the environment impacts our diet. To examine the interactions among environment (e.g. pollution, soil and water quality, climate change), food resources (growth, production, consumption, processing, distribution and disposal) and health.
Assessment: 40% tutorial assessment, 50% group project and presentation, 10% critical review.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL2101 or ENVS2001 or ENVS2002 or BIOL3201.

BIOL3218. Food hygiene and quality control (6 credits)

To provide exposure to some key management, microbiology and food processing concepts used to produce safe high-quality food products. To introduce students to analysis and problem-solving of realistic business situations in food safety management.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 50% examination, 30% project reports.
Prerequisites: Pass in BIOL2101 or BIOL3201 or BIOL3203. Not for students who have passed in BIOL3208.

BIOL3401. Molecular biology (6 credits)

To provide students with recent knowledge in molecular biology with special emphasis on the study of gene structure and function at the molecular level.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 80% examination.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOC2600 or BIOL2103 or BIOL2220 or MEDE2301.

BIOL3402. Cell biology and cell technology (6 credits)

To provide a coherent understanding of the structure and function of cells, and the principles and applications of cell culture and instrumentation in biology and biotechnology.
Assessment: 30% assignments, 70% examination.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOC2600 or BIOL2103 or BIOL2220 or MEDE2301.

BIOL3403. Immunology (6 credits)

To provide a broad understanding of the animal immune system. Topics will also include the application of a variety of immunological methods to research and disease diagnosis.
Assessment: 80% examination, 20% laboratory reports.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOC2600 or BIOL2103 or BIOL2220 or MEDE2301.

BIOL4411. Plant and food biotechnology (6 credits)

This course covers the principles and key concepts of plant and food biotechnology and its applications in increasing global food supply. The significances of biotechnology in agriculture and food production, and the emerging importance of plant biotechnology in molecular farming for the production of biopharmaceuticals and other high-value proteins will be discussed. The course will also provide an insight on the real-life applications of plant and food biotechnology.
Assessment: 70% examination, 10% laboratory reports, 20% presentation.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL3211 or BIOL3401.

ENVS3020. Global change ecology (6 credits)

The main goal of this course is to introduce students to the ways in which global environmental change affects biodiversity from organisms to ecosystems. This course will explore the contributions that human population growth and globalization have made to increases in greenhouse gases and associated climate change, biological invasions, land degradation, disease, and, ultimately, impacts on biological systems.

Assessment: 20% assignments, 30% essay, 30% examination, 20% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL2306 or ENVS2001 or ENVS2002.

ENVS4110. Environmental remediation (6 credits)

To introduce students with the environmental fate information of different pollutants/contaminants in the environment. To understand the technologies available for environmental remediation of pollutants in soils and water, and the characteristics of each techniques relevant to the pollutants of concern. To learn the fundamental physical, chemical and biochemical reactions involved in the remediation process. To obtain skills for critical analysis of the recent technological development and the proposed applications.
Assessment: 10% assignments, 50% examination, 25% laboratory reports, 10% presentation, 5% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in BIOL3109 or BIOL3110 or BIOL3401 or ENVS3042.

Department of Chemistry

Introductory Courses

CHEM1042. General chemistry I (6 credits)

The course aims to provide students with a solid foundation of the basic principles and concepts of chemistry. It also provides students with hands-on training of basic laboratory skills and techniques including volumetric analysis, preparation, purification and characterization of chemical substances and some basic instrumental methods. Students will be equipped with a good foundation of theoretical and practical knowledge and skills for further studies in Chemistry.
Assessment: 60% examination, 25% laboratory reports, 15% test.
Prerequisites: Level 3 or above in HKDSE Chemistry or equivalent or a pass in CHEM1041. Not for students having taken any level 1 Chemistry course (except for CHEM1041) or above or any equivalent Chemistry course.

CHEM2441. Organic chemistry I (6 credits)

To provide students with the basic principles to understand the structure and reactivity of organic molecules, with examples illustrating the role of organic chemistry in daily life and industry. This course serves as the first part of the complete program on fundamental organic chemistry, to be followed up by CHEM3441 Organic Chemistry II.
Assessment: 15% assignments, 65% examination, 20% test.
Prerequisites: Pass in CHEM1042; and Pass in CHEM1043, or already enrolled in this course; and NOT for students who have passed CHEM2041, or already enrolled in this course.

CHEM2442. Fundamentals of organic chemistry (6 credits)

The major objective of this course is to give the students a basic understanding of organic chemistry, especially in the context of daily life. This will be achieved through the introduction of the chemistry of organic functional groups that form the basis of organic molecules. The concepts presented in the lectures will be reinforced by a series of laboratory experiments.
Assessment: 60% examination, 40% test.
Prerequisites: Pass in CHEM1042; and not for students who have passed CHEM2441, or have already enrolled in this course.

Advanced Courses

CHEM3141. Environmental chemistry (6 credits)

This course introduces students to Environmental Chemistry and enables them to understand the chemical principles involved in various environmental phenomena and processes.
Assessment: 30% assignments, 70% examination.
Prerequisite: Pass in CHEM2041 or CHEM2341 or CHEM2441 or CHEM2442 or CHEM2541.

CHEM3242. Food and water analysis (6 credits)

To cover areas in the application and new methodology development in analytical chemistry with focus on food and water analysis.
Assessment: 5% assignments, 70% examination, 15% laboratory reports, 10% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in CHEM2041 or CHEM2241 or CHEM2341 or CHEM2441 or CHEM2541.

CHEM3441. Organic chemistry II (6 credits)

As a continuation from CHEM2441 Organic Chemistry I, this course aims to provide a solid foundation of organic chemistry together with CHEM2441. It focuses primarily on the basic principles to understand the structure and reactivity of organic molecules, with examples illustrating the role of organic chemistry in daily life and industry.
Assessment: 70% examination, 30% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in CHEM2441.

CHEM3442. Organic chemistry of biomolecules (6 credits)

The major objective of this course is to give the students an understanding and appreciation of the role of organic chemistry in biology and biochemistry.
Assessment: 60% examination, 10% presentation, 30% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in CHEM2442 or CHEM3441.

Department of Earth Sciences

Introductory Courses

EASC1401. Blue Planet (6 credits)

The aim is to provide those students who are taking a first course in Earth System Sciences with a fundamental knowledge of how our diverse and living planet Earth works with weaving together an understanding of the dynamic and interactive processes in the Earth's lithosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and atmosphere. In addition, students should become familiar with the way the study of Earth Sciences blends observation, information, hypothesis, communication and decision making for a better understanding of the future of our planet.
Assessment: 40% examination, 20% laboratory reports, 30% project report, 10% test.

EASC1403. Geological heritage of Hong Kong (6 credits)

To give an overview of the geology of Hong Kong, potential geological resources for tourism and the role of geology in the development of Hong Kong's infrastructure.
Assessment: 10% assignments, 20% essay, 50% examination, 10% presentation, 10% project report.

EASC2401. Fluid/solid interactions in earth processes (6 credits)

This course provides an overview of the physical and chemical principles that govern Earth processes.
Assessment: 60% assignments, 40% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in EASC1401 or EASC1402.

EASC2404. Introduction to atmosphere and hydrosphere (6 credits)

This course introduces the atmosphere and hydrosphere systems, and explains at a basic level how they interact with one another.
Assessment: 20% assignments, 25% essay, 50% examination, 5% presentation.
Prerequisite: Pass in EASC1401 or EASC1402.

ENVS1401. Introduction to environmental science (6 credits)

To provide students with an inter-disciplinary introduction to Environmental Science highlighting the interconnections between biological, geological, and chemical processes.
To convey the basic science behind environmental interactions and place it within the context of human impacts and dependence on the natural world.
To better understand how humans interact, manage, and sustain the environment within the context of our economies, governments and individual choices.
Assessment: 40% assignments, 40% examination, 20% test.

Advanced Courses

EASC3415. Meteorology (6 credits)

This course provides students with a modern understanding of weather by examining at an advanced level the processes that govern atmospheric structure and behaviour, weather elements, and weather systems.
Assessment: 25% assignments, 50% examination, 25% project report.
Prerequisite: Pass in EASC2404.

ENVS3004. Environment, society and economics (6 credits)

This course follows up issues highlighted in the introductory course and provides in-depth studies about rural and urban environments for students to examine the problems of resource scarcity and pollutant accumulation in the natural environment, which are the problems human society is currently confronted. The course will focus on major environmental problems and explore how Environmental Economics can be applied for resource management and environmental restoration/protection. Students will analyse the nature of key natural resources such as land, air, water and biomass, and explore ways to improve resource management, protect the environment and develop sustainable economies.
Assessment: 50% examination, 50% project reports.
Prerequisite: Pass in one of the following courses: CHEM2041, EASC2404, ENVS2001 or ENVS2002.

ENVS3042. Pollution (6 credits)

This multi-disciplinary course will introduce students to the most important physical, chemical and biological contaminants that pollute the environment. The course will provide the basics of contaminant transport, toxicology, pollution monitoring and environmental risk assessment. The course will also explore in details different mechanisms and pathways for water, atmosphere, soil and land pollution. The student will also be invited to reflect on the socio-economic aspect of pollution and remediation.
Assessment: 50% assignments, 50% test.
Prerequisite: Pass in EASC2401 or CHEM2241 or BIOL2103 or ENVS2001.

Department of Physics

Introductory Courses

PHYS1055. How things work (6 credits)

This course is designed for students in all disciplines and all years who are curious about science in daily life. The course covers the working principles and mechanisms of the things and phenomena around us. Logical thinking and appreciation of science are emphasized with mathematics kept at a minimum. Students are trained to develop scientific intuition and to understand that many "magical" things in everyday life can be predictable.
Assessment: 25% assignments, 50% examination, 25% presentation.

PHYS1056. Weather, climate and climate change (6 credits)

Weather and climate play an important role in human activities and history. In this course, we shall introduce to students the fundamentals of weather, climate and climate changes, to arouse their interests in the scientific and technological advancements.
Assessment: 25% assignments, 50% examination, 25% test.

Advanced Course

ENVS3010. Sustainable energy and environment (6 credits)

In this course, the students will learn about sustainability and environmental impact of different energy technologies, including conventional energy sources as well as renewable and/or clean energy sources. The technological challenges, potential for future development, and environmental impacts (community, regional, and global) will be discussed.
Assessment: 10% assignments, 50% examination, 40% presentation.
Prerequisite: Pass in CHEM2041 or ENVS2001 or ENVS2002 or PHYS2260.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Advanced Course

BASC2001. Essential skills for undergraduates: The Leadership Development Course on Culture, Science and Society (ES4L) (6 credits)
(Student should not take this course concurrently with DSEN9002 Sustainable Leadership.)

The goal of this course is to prepare HKU students for a lifetime of engaged, responsible and active community involvement and leadership on- and off-campus and after graduation. Leadership is explored as an integral component of a student's career and life plan, focusing on the theory of relational leadership along with the importance of interpersonal skills and group dynamics. The methodology employed in this course will be one of knowledge acquisition, practice, and reflection through the exploration of theory, case study analysis, and active design of a performance-based leadership experience. The course is designed around the principles of team and organizational leadership, intercultural leadership, community leadership and personal leadership development. At the conclusion of this course, students will demonstrate understanding of leadership theory and research, an increased awareness of their personal leadership purpose, and an increased confidence and skill in practicing leadership in collegiate, workplace and/or community settings.
The learning has two components: an in-class Leadership in Theory learning and an experiential out-of-class Leadership in Practice component which is community-based. Leadership in Theory or in-class teaching is designed around reading assignments, case studies, in class discussions, guest lectures and group exercises. While the Leadership in Practice component is a 6-week leadership journey in Hong Kong and/or the Greater Bay Area and participation in a guided field trip in a specific leadership journey focused on culture, science or society; and participation in an innovative group consulting project where they will design

and implement a service-project.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Department of Geography

Introductory Courses

GEOG1003. Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)

Recent decades have been characterized by increasing awareness of environmental issues and the need to come to terms with them. This course will examine, in turn, many of the current major environmental issues related to the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere as well as looking at major threats posed by the environment itself in the form of natural hazards. In addition, the issue of a potential nuclear threat and the ever-increasing demand for energy are explored. Finally, the matter of sustainable development and intelligent management of the planet for present and future generations is addressed.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the processes and spatial patterns of economic development and social changes in an increasingly urbanizing world. Important subjects to be discussed include the geographical dynamics of economic development, the trend of economic globalization versus local development, the location issue in various economic sectors, geopolitics and the new world order, as well as social and environmental concerns in the urbanization process. Emphasis will be placed on the geographical explanation of economic development and emerging urban issues in this rapidly changing world.
Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

GEOG1020. Modern Maps in the Age of Big Data (6 credits)

Maps have been widely used in our everyday work-life activities, while modern maps, such as photo-realistic streetscape maps available on the Internet and dynamic/interactive maps with changing 3D views, which are made possible with big data, i.e., extremely large datasets relating to human behavior and social interaction captured with modern positioning and affordable mobile devices, are making our daily life more convenient and our work more efficient. This course introduces the main features of modern maps, the characteristics of big data, the opportunities and challenges, and the basic principles for producing and applying modern maps in the age of big data.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

Advanced Courses

GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)

This course evaluates the links between environmental protection and economic development. The world must manage its natural and environmental resources to meet the human needs of the present while at the same time preserving these resources for future generations. The course introduces students to different views on how human society can achieve the goal of economic growth without depleting the Earth's capital and jeopardizing the planet's life support system. It aims to enhance students' understanding of the issues relating to sustainable development. Although the course cannot provide complete answers to the issues, it helps develop students' ability of critical thinking and suggest promising directions in which answers may be sought.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)

This course explains the processes of globalization and the implications of using information and communication technologies (ICT) in understanding forces of spatial convergence and divergence. It provides students with a better understanding of the forces of globalization and ICT, and their impact on contemporary geography. After taking this course, students are expected to be able to understand local issues as the results of forces operating at different spatial scales and be able to analyse and respond to changes brought about by globalization and ICT. A geographical perspective is adopted to explain and analyse the processes of globalization. Special emphasis is placed on the modern transnational corporations (TNCs) in different sectors of the economy and different regions of the world. Then, the impact of ICT on various dimensions of the society, including government, commerce, work, and personal and social networking, are systematically examined. The stages of e-development are proposed. Finally, the question of whether places in the contemporary world are moving towards convergence and divergence is addressed.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG2078. Urban geography: growth, function and pattern of cities (6 credits)

Human beings and their activities are increasingly concentrated in cities. A holistic examination of the city involves understanding its role, internal physical and social structure, and systems of activities. This is a basic course on urban geography. It covers basic topics including the history and forces of urbanization, economic development and evolution of cities, internal structure of cities, and cities as a system with functional relations. New urban phenomena such as the emergence of world-global cities and extended metropolitan regions are discussed. The course provides a basic understanding of city and related urban issues and problems.
Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the computer-assisted techniques of geographic data analysis, collectively known as GIS, which involve the overlaying and merging of spatial data layers. The principles of such an approach will be discussed focusing on the nature of spatial data,

raster and vector data structures, GPS data collection, data transformation and geocoding, and spatial overlay techniques. Students must complete five simple exercises involving the application of GIS concepts in real-life situations. An examination requiring short-essay responses will be administered during the examination period.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

GEOG2126. Globalizing China: the land and the people (6 credits)

This is an introductory course about the evolving physical, cultural and political landscape of China. Emphasis is placed on (a) the natural environment and physical setting for development; (b) historical geography and evolution of the landscape; (c) the political system and post-1949 development; and (d) the growth and spatial distribution of the Chinese population.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)

The course will introduce a range of key issues, concepts, principles and methods in environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to environmental management will also be elaborated. The roles of civil society, market mechanism and government regulations in environmental management will be examined. Real-life examples from Hong Kong, China, and oversea countries will be discussed to illustrate how integrated approaches should be applied for identifying optimal options in environmental management decision-making processes.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG2132. World cities (6 credits)

World cities have been contributing to the international networks of human activities, including flows of goods, services and finance which constitute the world economy. The course is divided into three main sections with two introductory lectures outlining the key concepts and terminologies to be used in the latter part of discussion and two concluding lectures focusing on the challenges of livability, sustainability and vibrancy of world cities. It begins with a discussion of urban economies. World cities are concentrations of capital, international firms, and professional workers. This part of the module offers an economic rationale for the existence of world cities and explains how they are shaped by the process of globalization. The discussion is followed by providing an overview of urban issues, including uneven development, concentrated decentralization, fragmentation, polycentrism, regionalization, segregation and exclusion. Different world cities will be chosen as case studies. Growth sustainability of world cities will be discussed before concluding this course.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG2138. Hong Kong's environment: issues and policies (6 credits)

This course will provide students with a regional and comparative perspective to examine the complex inter-relationships between the socio-economic-political processes and the perplexing environmental and ecological conditions of Hong Kong. This course will help students develop an in-depth understanding of the larger issues impinging on Hong Kong's ecological future. It

will also enable them to think critically of the material causes and consequences of the changing nature of environmental challenges associated with sustained economic and urban growth, both in Hong Kong as well as in its neighbouring jurisdictions in Mainland China. The course materials are organized around three major sub-themes to help achieve its overall objectives: the sustainability dimensions of Hong Kong as a compact city, the links between economic restructuring and changing environmental challenges and the constraints of and opportunities for cross-boundary environmental cooperation.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG2133. Cities and migrants (6 credits)

Like many western cities, Hong Kong as well as many East Asian metropolises now experience the influx of domestic and/or international migrants from various regions of world. While large cities gain new potentials of growth from migrants, they also suffer from societal issues posed by the migrants. This course will examine the changing patterns and underlying mechanism of internal and international migration in cities and urban areas across the world. Major topics will include theoretical frameworks of migration theories, spatial patterns of immigrant settlements in cities, identity inclination, social integration, feminization of migration, Asian American, cross-boundary movement between Hong Kong and the Mainland, and health of migrants.
Assessment: 50% coursework; 50% examination.

GEOG2150. Introduction to China's environmental and sustainable development issues (6 credits)

China is prone to natural resources degradation due to its geographic characteristics and its large population. Environmental problems have been accelerated by not only the rapid economic growth of recent years but also the high intensity of energy use, particularly in the industrial sector. These factors combined with economic and pricing policies failing to account for the intrinsic value of natural resources have led to their over-exploitation. This course provides a general overview of China's natural environment; examines its institutional, legislative and administrative frameworks in environment protection and nature conservation; and discusses the government's strategies for environmental protection and sustainable development.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG3205. Environmental hazards (6 credits)

This course examines a range of environmental hazards of geological, geomorphological, atmospheric, biological and human origin focusing on their origins, characteristics and impacts on human society. It will also deal with the responses available to different societies to deal with these hazards including disaster relief, loss sharing and event modification adjustments. Basic hazard planning and management principles are outlined. Where practicable local and regional examples will be used as illustrations.
Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

GEOG3207. Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)

The purpose of this course is to discuss the role of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies in the environmental decision-making process and as a means for better environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to EIA systems will be discussed throughout the lectures. The course will also introduce different methodologies in planning and managing of an EIA study. Applications of EIA system in the local context will be discussed in detail and illustrated by real-life examples mainly from Hong Kong.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)

This course aims to provide students with the fundamental understanding of nature's ecosystem services and their importance for the development of a sustainable society. Creating a sustainable society is one of the most crucial challenges in the 21st century. Human society is dependent on both technological and ecological life support systems. To build a sustainable society, it is necessary to understand natural ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services which are essential to the survival of human society. Attention should be given to the sustainability of ecosystem services lest they may fail through ever increasing pressure of population and associated environmental degradation. This course starts with an introduction of the concept of ecosystem services. Major issues discussed include: (1) conceptualization and classification of ecosystem services; (2) urban ecosystem services and land-use planning; (3) human impacts on ecosystem services; (4) ecosystem services economics; and (5) ecosystem services mapping.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)

The world's major environmental problems are closely related to the impacts imposed by various commercial establishments. Recently, the contribution of the business sector to social responsibility and sustainability has been increasingly emphasized. The awareness of the social and environmental implications of business operations, products and services has brought changes in relevant attitudes, behaviours and policies. On the other hand, various stakeholders, such as the public, investors, customers, employees, media and business partners are interested in the social and environmental activities of corporations and their contribution to sustainable development. This course introduces students to the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and environmental auditing. It will focus on the recognition of CSR as a process that integrates social and environmental concerns in business operations, and the application of environmental auditing as a preventative tool to manage social and environmental responsibilities. Adopting an integrated scientific and practical approach, the course appeals to students with science, social science, business or humanity background with interests in corporate social performance, welfare of the environment and quest for sustainable development.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

GEOG3417. Health, wellbeing, place and GIS (6 credits)
(Students are recommended to take "GEOG2090 Introduction to geographic information systems" before taking this more advanced course)

Various communicable and non-communicable diseases and related health issues emerge major social problems across the world. All aspects of the natural, built, and socioeconomic environment may affect human health and wellbeing both individually and collectively. The idea of applying GIS techniques in health-related studies is not new. Indeed, GIS has been used for decades in the western countries to undertake assessment and control of environmental factors that can potentially affect health and wellbeing. This course explores major theoretical and practical issues of public health and wellbeing across the world. It also covers how GIS is used to address and analyse pressing health problems from the geographical perspective by discussing mapping, spatial analysis, spatial modelling, and visualization. The course will be conducted in a series of lectures and hands-on practices (three computer-based exercises and 1 final project) in a problem-based learning environment. An examination requiring short-essay responses will be administered during the examination period.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

GEOG3423. Social and cultural perspectives in understanding cities (6 credits)

A city is not only a spatial concentration of productive activities and built environment, but also key to our sociocultural lives and experiences. Over a period of more than a century, urban scholars have developed a vast variety of concepts and approaches to understand the social lives, cultural identities and lifestyles in the city. This body of knowledge combines geographical, sociological, anthropological, political economic, cultural studies and urban planning perspectives, and is central to the next generation of urbanists hoping to understand, analyze, manage and plan our cities. To help students develop critical understandings of the mundane social and cultural experiences in the city, topics in this course will include: modernity and the city; Chicago School of modern urbanism; Marxist political economic approaches; Los Angeles School and post-modern urbanism; globalization and transnational urbanism; urban cultures and heritage; gentrification and urban regeneration; culture-based urban development policies; race, gender and sexuality in the city.
Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

Department of Politics and Public Administration

Introductory Course

POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)

It is an introductory course offered to students with no previous background in political science. It covers the basic concepts, institutions and processes that one would encounter in the study of politics. Emphasis will be placed on the application of concepts to current issues, including (but not restricted to) that of Hong Kong.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Advanced Courses

POLI3010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)

This course aims to explore a set of important issues about the theory and practice of democracy. The first part of the course will examine the challenge of meritocracy and various justifications of democracy, including those offered by Mill, Rousseau, Schumpeter, and others. The second part will address some of the most pressing problems facing liberal democracies today: how to improve the quality of public deliberation in the age of social media? How to overcome the challenges posed by populism? How to maintain the efficacy of democratic institutions in a global capitalist economy?
Assessment: 100% coursework.

POLI3020. Hong Kong politics (6 credits)

This course focuses on the legal, political and institutional structure of the Hong Kong government. The political culture and attitudes of the Hong Kong people are discussed. Other topics include the Chief Executive, legislative politics, constitutional politics, public opinion, pressure groups, political parties, mass media, and Beijing's policy toward Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

POLI3039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)

This is an introductory course to public policy analysis with an emphasis on the production of advice for decision-makers. This course builds foundations of public policy analysis by covering related theories and concepts. Having answered why we need government intervention in solving public policy problems, this course also seeks to equip students with skills and techniques to analyse, design, and assess policy options.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)

This course explores the political dimensions of global economic relations. The objectives of this course are to give students a better appreciation of major problems and dilemmas of contemporary global economy and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in the global economy. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on global political economy. The course then examines distinct issue areas: globalization, development, trade, capital flows, financial crises, multinational production, environmental degradation, world hunger, and the transnational movement of people.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

POLI3097. Modernity and globalization (6 credits)

The concept of ‘modernity’ refers to a series of developments that transformed the world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the emergence of the modern state, democracy, capitalism and modern industry. The concept of ‘globalization’ refers to a series of similar dynamics in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, such as the emergence of global governance, new forms of global trade and industry, and apparent transformations in cultures and societies. This module surveys some of the most important debates about modernity and

globalization in social and political thought, addressing important questions such as: What does it mean to be 'modern'? Is modernity a distinctively 'Western' experience? What is 'globalization'? Is globalization a transformation or continuation of modernity? Does globalization mark the 'triumph' of the 'West'?
Assessment: 100% coursework

POLI3121. Environmental policy (6 credits)

This course aims to provide introduction into the principles of environmental policy. It introduces fundamental theories and basic principles applied to environmental policy analysis. This course will help students to understand how economic incentives originate environmental problems and what roles government and public policy play. This course continues with discussions on various environmental policy issues, including international environmental issues and energy. Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI3117 in 2014-15 are not allowed to take this course.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Department of Psychology

Introductory Courses

PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)

Discussion of basic concepts in psychology and a preliminary survey of representative work carried out in various areas of psychological investigation, together with an investigation at some length of one such area.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research in psychology. The course is designed to provide students with the basic background in research design and data analysis, covering the logic of statistical reasoning and inference as well as the key concepts involved. Priority will be given to students planning to major in psychology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Advanced Courses

PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)

This course covers how humans process information from the environment. Topics include various aspects of perception, attention, memory, imagery, language and decision-making. Students will learn from attending lectures and active participation during tutorials. Students will also conduct experiments about cognitive functioning and learn to critically evaluate

existing studies in the research literature and to write research reports on experimental findings.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisites: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004

PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)

This course will critically examine a number of theories of personality as exemplified in the lives of some of the significant figures in the field. The relationship of specific theories to practical applications, personality assessment and psychotherapeutic techniques may be included. The major aims of the course are to provide a survey of the breath and complexity of this field and to provide a perspective from which to examine assumptions about human nature and the evaluation of behaviour.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)

The course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers social perception, social cognition, social motivation, attitudes and attitude change, relationship between attitude and behaviour, aggression, helping, interpersonal attraction, social influence on individual behaviour and group dynamics. The impact of Chinese culture on various social behaviours will form part of the discussion.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to biological aspects of behaviour. The topics include: biological bases of behaviour, development, learning, memory, and abnormal psychology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; psychophysiology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)

An introduction to sensation and perception, with an emphasis on the psychology of seeing. Specific topics include the following: examination of the functional properties of sensory systems (e.g., auditory system, colour vision, vestibular system, touch and kinaesthesia); phenomenology of sensation and perception; psychophysical limits of perceptual systems; goals of sensory coding; structure and evolution of sensory systems; theories of perception. Perceptual experiments will be conducted by students in laboratory classes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

This course will provide a broad exposure to both theory and practice in clinical psychology. It is a foundation course in mental health, counselling and other psychological services. A wide array of types of mental disorders will be examined. Important themes will be emphasized such as the continuum in behaviour from mental health to mental illness, the diathesis-stress and nature-nurture models and epidemiology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)

This course acquaints students with the realm of health psychology. Students will gain (a) an understanding of the ways psychosocial factors influence health concerns and healthcare utilization, and (b) familiarity with basic concepts that guide the work of health professionals. Topics covered in this course include health behaviours, coping with health-related stress, social support and health, psychoimmunology, management of chronic illnesses, and patient-practitioner interaction.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)

This course allows students to gain an understanding of the workings of the mind in the context of the technological advances that are increasingly shaping our lives and our society. The course introduces students to the domain, goals and methods of Cognitive Science, showing how different disciplines converge in their enquiry into how the brain works. Lectures will present case studies highlighting research findings which show how similar questions about the functioning of the human mind are answered from the perspective of each contributing discipline.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: COMP1117 or ENGG1330 or LING1000 or PHIL1012 or PSYC1001.

PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)

This course is a tutorial-based reading course in specialist areas of cognitive science research and interest. It will include presentations and group discussion of research and issues of interest within cognitive science, providing an opportunity for students to examine critically the cognitive science approach to understanding intelligent systems.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC2066 or two disciplinary electives.

PSYC2101. Foundations of neuroscience I (6 credits)

This course covers the fundamental principles of neuroscience. Topics include history of neuroscience, neurons and glia, neuronal membrane at rest, action potential, synaptic transmission, neuroanatomy, the somatic sensory system, chemical senses: taste and smell. the auditory system, vision and the eye, vision and the brain, spinal control of movement, brain control of movement, chemical control of the brain and behaviour, development in the nervous

system, memory systems, learning and memory: molecular biology, emotion and attention. (Priority will be given to students planning to major in neuroscience)
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC2102. Seminar in neuroscience (6 credits)

This course is a tutorial-based reading course in specialist areas of cognitive and behavioural neuroscience. It will include group presentations, in the context of organized formal debates, and in-depth group discussions of individual journal articles, providing an opportunity for students to examine critically the neuroscientific approach to understanding mind and behaviour. (Priority will be given to students planning to major in neuroscience)
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC2101.

PSYC2110. Developmental neuroscience (6 credits)

Developmental neuroscience is an interdisciplinary research topic that integrates neuroscience, cognitive science and developmental science. This course aims to uncover the brain and neural mechanisms that underlie social, affective and cognitive development across the life span. Specific topics will include the introduction of theories and methods in developmental neuroscience, neuroplasticity, neural mechanisms that underlie the development of attention and perception processes, motor learning, memory, cognitive control, social-emotional processes. This course will examine these processes at different developmental stages, including infants, toddlers, adolescence and ageing population. This course will also cover the neural mechanisms underlying atypical development such as the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.
Prerequisite: PSYC2101.

PSYC2111. Neurobiological basis of psychological issues (6 credits)

Human behaviour is generated by complex psychophysiological mechanisms of the brain. This course is designed to provide a broad introduction to the biological basis of stress, emotion, and regulation of cognitive-affective processes affecting psychological health. The neurobiological basis of psychopathologies e.g. depression, anxiety, will be examined as examples to demonstrate the complex relationships between brain, behaviour, and psychopathology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)

This advanced laboratory course is designed for students interested in learning how to conduct studies in social psychology. Students will develop skills in critically evaluating current theoretical controversies and methodological paradigms. Special attention is given to theoretical, methodological, and measurement issues such as critical thinking in social psychology, social research design, proposal writing, and research ethics. This course is

conducted in a seminar format with the expectation that students will participate actively and on occasion help lead a discussion. Some combination of readings, written assignments, and oral presentation is required. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2019 or PSYC2020.
Mutually exclusive with: PSYC3051

PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)

This course introduces basic principles of brain-behaviour relationships. Research methods for investigating brain-behaviour relationships are reviewed. The neuro-anatomical and neuropsychological mechanisms underpinning various cognitive and affective processes as well as how these processes are dysregulated in some common brain disorders are discussed. Students will participate in an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisites: Either PSYC2101 or PSYC2022.

PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)

This advanced seminar course reviews findings from both recent and classical research on human perceptual systems. Modules will consider in-depth, select special topics such as cross-modal perceptual interactions, lessons from abnormal perception in agnosia, amblyopia, etc. Modules will be discussed from a multidisciplinary standpoint, integrating computational, psychophysical and neurobiological approaches. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and PSYC2051.

PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)

This course covers some of the more recent developments in cognitive psychology. Students will learn about current issues in cognitive psychology by reading research articles. Topics may include consciousness, mental representations of objects/faces/letters, language, memory and 121 decision making, as well as other topics reflecting the interests of the teacher. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2007 or PSYC2051.

Department of Sociology

Introductory Courses

SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the nature of sociological enquiry and the basic concepts used in sociological analysis. After some reference to the influence of inheritance and environment on human social behaviour, the course will focus on key concepts used in the analysis of cultures, social structures, social processes and social change. Topics include social class, education, media, culture and crime. The relationship between research, concepts and contemporary theory will be explored at an introductory level.
Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)

This course will explore, through cross-cultural comparison, key social and cultural issues, such as marriage and the family, caste and class, ethnicity and identity, language and culture, state formation, economic values, gender and religion. The course will draw on studies of the peoples and cultures of Asia.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Advanced Courses

SOCI2015. Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)

This course examines the major research landmarks in the study of popular culture in modern societies. The theoretical and methodological issues raised will serve as a guide for a series of workshops and field projects which investigate the history, nature and social significance of popular culture in Hong Kong.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2044. Economic sociology (6 credits)

Economic Sociology is concerned with the relations between the economic and non-economic aspects of social life. It challenges the basic assumptions that economic action is universally rational on which neo-classical economics is based. This course begins with an introduction of the key ideas of "new economic sociology." It followed by some selected topics that apply the new economic sociology perspective to understand a wide range of economic activities, including culture and market, social network and economic transactions, the role of the state, money and consumption, investment and firm, corporation, labour management, organizational culture, and the cultural impacts of economic globalization.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOCI2053. Youth culture (6 credits)

This course explores issues such as the discovery of childhood and adolescence, the development and expressions of youth culture in different societies including the United States, Britain, Japan, Canada, as well as youth cultures in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2055. Tourism, culture and society (6 credits)

The phenomenal growth of tourism in contemporary societies is of major social and cultural significance. This course introduces students to a sociological study of tourism viewed as a complex social phenomenon connected with social and cultural dynamics. Special attention will be given to Asian and Chinese experiences, not only as guest societies, but also host societies.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)

The media plays an extremely influential role in the public's conceptions of crime and order. This course is designed to look at the different ways in which the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course is divided into two main sections. The first half of the course examines representations of crime in different media forms and theoretical explanations for why crime is portrayed in particular ways. The second half of the course focuses on the representation of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2071. Criminology (6 credits)

The course introduces students to criminology as both an applied and academic discipline. The subject matter of criminology is diverse involving research drawn from many disciplines including medicine, law and sociology. The course begins by focusing on the state of crime in Hong Kong and introduces students to the operations, functions and nature of the various criminal justice agencies involved in the control of crime. The course also provides a general review of the major theoretical approaches and issues in understanding and measuring crime. The course also provides an applied component which emphasizes the principles and practice of investigative interviewing - a core skill in the criminal justice system. Related topics covered to enhance the context of investigative interviewing include victimology, the investigative process and the role of forensic sciences (corroboration), and the legal rights of the suspect. Students will be required to visit courts, prisoner treatment programmes and participate in interviewing exercises and practicums.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2077. Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)

China has been undergoing dramatic and rapid social change as it becomes embedded in the global economy, and as such, has been the focus of a great deal of media attention. This course investigates the multi-faceted ways in which China's social, economic, political, and legal cultures are portrayed in different forms of contemporary media.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOCI2080. Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)

This course introduces key thinkers, traditions and current debates in media and cultural studies and explores the central role of media and culture in contemporary social life. It enables students to understand media and culture as institution, practice, representation, production and consumption, and creativity. Topics include: a) the rise of the mass entertainment industries and their influence on social behaviour; b) the role of consumption in maintaining and creating new social identities and status hierarchy; c) the search for fantasies in advertisement; d) new regimes of body management and their impact on gender relations; e) the reclaiming of gender, sexual and cultural identities; and f) the various emerging forms of cultural politics and local activism.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2081. Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)

This course aims at investigating the significant changes that appear to be happening in the private sphere of intimacy in late-modern times in the globe, paying particular attention to Hong Kong city and other Asian countries. It introduces key concepts and theoretical approaches of gender and sexuality studies and touches upon topics such as homosexuality, female sexuality, pornography, commercial sex, BDSM, etc. It attempts to rethink the newly emerging sexual meanings that seem to harbour the rights and responsibilities of being sexual, pursuing pleasures, possessing bodies, claiming visibility and creating new relationships. At the end of the course, students are expected to develop critical thinking, a respect for diversity and the ability to envision new possibilities of intimacy.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2084 Globalization and culture (6 credits)

How does culture matter in the global diffusion of capitalism? How is Japanese capitalism different from American capitalism? How is marketization in post-socialist China different from marketization in post-socialist Russia? Through a number of anthropological and sociological empirical studies, this course examines the relations between culture and globalization of market economy in various respects. It exposes students to different parts of the world and their receptions to the globalizing economic and cultural forces. The course explores these questions through a perusal of different topics, such as work and labour in multi-national corporations, the McDonaldization of social and cultural sphere of life, and the global discourse of media and fashion. Interesting case studies from different localities will be used substantially for classroom discussion.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

SOCI2087. Urban society and culture (6 credits)

In our age of globalization, world cities have become increasingly important as financial centers and cultural marketplaces in the world economy. This course examines how urban life is changing as cities redevelop to regulate global flows of capital, culture, and people. For whom is world city development designed? What are the fault lines of social inequality and difference that are taking shape? What new cultural forms are emerging, and why has culture become an important business for world cities? A number of cities will be considered, including New York, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Paris, and Sao Paulo.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOCI2091. Sociology of culture (6 credits)

This course surveys the field of sociology of culture for an introductory purpose. It covers the core theoretical debates in cultural sociology and introduces some empirical investigations of the role of culture in various social lives, including in the structure of social inequalities. Students will learn the basic concepts of culture from a sociological perspective and develop a critical mind to analyse how culture works in our everyday lives and how culture is related to society in general.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOCI3069. Crime and the city (6 credits)

The course examines key questions about crime, disorder and social deviance in city landscapes. The course focuses on three broad issues: different dimensions of the crime problem (the 'what' and the 'who' questions); the relationship between crime, space and place (the 'where' question); and the complex mix of informal and formal social controls that influence different types and levels of crime and social problems. Topics include low-level criminality and transgressions; urban-based subcultures (e.g. graffiti); the relationship between crime and design; marginalized groups (e.g. the homeless, migrants) and their use of public space; gated communities and urban fears; surveillance in everyday life. Its objective is to equip students with sophisticated ways of thinking critically and comparatively about different dimensions of crime and social order in an increasingly globalizing and polarizing world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.
Prerequisite: SOCI2071 Criminology

Department of Social Work and Social Administration

Introductory Courses

SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I) (6 credits)

This course introduces a holistic approach to an exploration of normal patterns of development from infancy to old age. Social and familial conditions affecting growth at different stages in the life-cycle will be studied, together with related problems of adaptation and adjustment.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOWK1015. Introduction to social policy and social development (6 credits)

This course introduces the basic concepts and theoretical frameworks of social policy and social development, the history of social welfare in Hong Kong and in the international contexts, the process of programme and policy development, roles of various stakeholders (e.g., the government, the market sector, the voluntary sector, and the public), and the evaluation of programmes and policies. Students will acquire an understanding of social policy and social

development through cases of diverse modes of social intervention from the developed and developing world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life (6 credits)

"No man is an island" – John Donne. Human beings are social animals. It is our natural behaviour to communicate with others. Good communication skills, however, are learned skills and not innate. Good counselling skills are advanced communication techniques. This course is an introduction to the basic communication and counselling skills required for establishing close and helping relationship with others. Students will be introduced to the concepts, skills and self-awareness needed for helpful interviewing and counselling and they can be applied in everyday life. Students are expected to have developed good listening skills, interviewing skills, and creative thinking and problem solving skills at the end of the course. Most importantly, this course aims to assist students to identify their personal areas of strengths and weaknesses in order to allow them to become effective listener and communicator.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Advanced Courses

SOWK2109. Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)

Throughout Hong Kong's history it has been a cosmopolitan city where people arrived in the territory from across the globe as colonisers, merchants, soldiers, low paid manual workers, domestic workers, professionals or for family reunion thus starting at different rungs of the social ladder. This gave rise to its multicultural flavour and justifiably becoming 'Asia's world city'. However, not all migrants have benefited from this miraculous growth. Some were pushed to the margins, excluded or made invisible. This course benefits those who work with members of ethnic minority communities, intending to do so or who are curious about racial discrimination and multiculturalism in Hong Kong. Topics discussed include stigma, discrimination and prejudice in the context of history, gender, culture and religion of members of ethnic minority 128 communities, new arrivals or immigrant families. Lectures, group and panel discussions as well as field visits will constitute the learning process.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

SOWK2119. Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)

The nature of interpersonal conflicts and strategies of conflict resolution will be examined in this course. The key elements of negotiation and mediation will be reviewed from different perspectives. Students will learn basic skills of negotiation and mediation. A win-win strategy in the conflict resolution process will be emphasized.
Assessment: 100% coursework.