Note: For the MSocSc(Psychology) Syllabuses for 2027-28, please refer to the programme's website for latest update.

Subject to University's approval
2026-27

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (MSocSc)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

These regulations apply to candidates admitted to the Master of Social Sciences in the academic year 2026-27 and thereafter.

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

The degree of Master of Social Sciences (MSocSc) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study in one of the following fields: Applied Psychology, Behavioral Health; Clinical Psychology; Counselling; Criminology; Educational Psychology; Gerontology; Media, Culture and Creative Cities; Mental Health; Nonprofit Management; Population and Policy Analysis; Psychology; Social Data Analytics; Social Service Management; Sociology; and Sustainability Leadership and Governance. These fields of study will not necessarily be offered every year.

Admission requirements

MSS 1. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences, candidates

(a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
(b) shall hold
  (i) a Bachelor's degree of this University; or
  (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
(c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b);
(d) shall satisfy any other admission requirements which may be specified for individual fields of study in the regulations below; and
(e) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

MSS 1.1. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the fields of Behavioral Health, Counselling, Gerontology, Mental Health, and Social Service Management, candidates shall preferably have had a minimum of two years of post-qualification experience in the relevant fields, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.2. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Clinical Psychology, candidates

(a) shall hold a Bachelor's degree with a major in Psychology, or a recognised equivalent qualification;
(b) shall have demonstrated empirical research experience in the form of a dissertation completed in the Bachelor's degree programme or another equivalent programme in

psychology, or first-authorship in published journal article;
(c) shall be eligible for the Graduate Membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society; and
(d) shall preferably have relevant working experience,
in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.3. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Criminology, candidates
(a) shall hold a Bachelor's degree preferably with a major in the social sciences or humanities discipline; or
(b) shall preferably have working experience in the criminal justice system, social welfare agencies, or in other work with offenders,
in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.4. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Educational Psychology, candidates
(a) shall hold a Bachelor's degree with a major in Psychology, or a recognised equivalent qualification;
(b) shall be eligible for the Graduate Membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society; and
(c) shall preferably have relevant working experience in educational or related settings,
in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.5. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Nonprofit Management, candidates shall preferably have three years of relevant working experience, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.6. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in interview if deemed necessary, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.7. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Social Data Analytics, candidates
(a) shall preferably have a Bachelor's degree in one of the fields of social sciences: Anthropology, Cognitive Science, Communication, Economics, Education Studies, Ethnic Studies, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Urban Studies and Planning, or a closely related field; or a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, Computer Science, or a related field with an additional major/minor or substantial advanced coursework in one or more social sciences domains; and
(b) shall preferably have pre-existing training in statistics and/or formal logic or prior experience with one or more technical domains, including programming, statistics, formal logic, calculus, linear algebra, etc.
in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.8. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis, candidates
(a) shall preferably have a Bachelor's degree in one of the fields of social sciences: Anthropology, Cognitive Science, Communication, Economics, Education Studies, Ethnic Studies, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Urban Studies and Planning, or a closely related field; and
(b) shall preferably have prior experience with applied statistics, mathematics, programming, and/or one or more technical domains (e.g. demographic methods); and
(c) with a background in statistics, mathematics, computer science, or a related field may be considered if they have a minor or have completed substantial advanced coursework in one or more social sciences domains before admission; or if they commit to pursuing

additional domain-specific study upon admission
in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.9. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Sociology, candidates shall hold a Bachelor's degree preferably with a major in the social sciences or humanities discipline, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 1.10. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Applied Psychology, candidates shall hold a Bachelor's degree with a major in Psychology, or a recognized equivalent qualification, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

MSS 2. An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

Qualifying examination

MSS 3.
(a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.
(b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.

Award of degree

MSS 4. To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Social Sciences, candidates
(a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
(b) shall complete the programme as prescribed in the syllabuses and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

Period of study

MSS 5. The curriculum shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study; or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise specified for individual fields of study in the regulations below.

MSS 5.1. In the field of Clinical Psychology, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years of full-time study.

MSS 5.2. In the field of Counselling, the programme shall normally extend over two or three academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of three academic years for the two-year part-time study or four academic years for the three-year part-time study.

MSS 5.3. In the field of Criminology, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or four academic years of part-

time study.

MSS 5.4. In the field of Educational Psychology, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years for both full-time and part-time study.

MSS 5.5. In the fields of Media, Culture and Creative Cities, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or four academic years of part-time study.

MSS 5.6. In the field of Nonprofit Management, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year (three semesters) of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study.

MSS 5.7. In the fields of Mental Health and Social Service Management, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of three academic years of part-time study.

MSS 5.8. In the fields of Population and Policy Analysis and Applied Psychology, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study.

MSS 5.9. In the field of Sociology, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study.

MSS 6. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration specified in the above regulations, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

Advanced Standing

MSS 7. Advanced Standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum. Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted. The amount of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:

(a) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate; and

(b) credits granted for Advanced Standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of the Faculty but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

Exemption

MSS 8. Candidates may be exempted, with or without special conditions attached, from the requirement prescribed in the regulations and syllabuses governing the curriculum with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, except in the case of a capstone experience. Approval for

exemption of a capstone experience may be granted only by the Senate with good reasons. Candidates who are so exempted must replace the number of exempted credits with courses of the same credit value.

Progression in curriculum

MSS 9. Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions 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 combined total number of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing and credit transfer shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

Completion of curriculum

MSS 10. To complete the curriculum, candidates

(a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
(b) shall follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work and field work;
(c) shall complete and present a satisfactory dissertation or capstone project as prescribed in the syllabuses; and
(d) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.

Dissertation and Capstone project

MSS 11. Subject to the provisions of Regulation MSS 10(c), the title of the dissertation or capstone project shall be submitted for approval by not later than March 31 of the final academic year in which the teaching programme ends and the dissertation or capstone project shall be presented by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses for each field of study; candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation or capstone project represents their own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by their co-worker(s), which show their share of the work) undertaken after registration as candidates for the degree.

Assessment

MSS 12. Candidates shall be assessed for 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.

MSS 13.

(a) Where so prescribed in the syllabuses, coursework or a dissertation or a capstone project shall constitute part or whole of the examination for one or more courses.
(b) An assessment of the candidates' coursework during their studies, including completion of written assignments and participation in field work or laboratory work, as the case may be, may be taken into account in determining the candidates' result in each written examination paper; or, where so prescribed in the syllabuses, may constitute the

examination of one or more courses.

MSS 14. Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a passing grade for the purpose of upgrading.

MSS 15. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners at their first attempt in not more than half of the number of courses to be examined, whether by means of written examination papers or coursework assessment, during any of the academic years of study, may be permitted to make up for the failed course(s) in the following manner:

(a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course; 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.

MSS 16. Subject to the provision of Regulation MSS 10(c), candidates who have failed to present a satisfactory dissertation or capstone project may be permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation or capstone project within a specified period.

MSS 17. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in any prescribed field work/practical work/internship may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in field work/practical work/internship within a specified period.

MSS 18. Candidates who are unable because of their illness to be present at the written examination 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 following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days 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 provision made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

MSS 19. There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

MSS 20. Candidates who

(a) are not permitted to present themselves for re-assessment/re-examination in any failed course(s) or to repeat the failed course(s) or take another course in lieu under Regulation MSS 15; or
(b) have failed to satisfy the examiners in any course(s) at a second attempt; or
(c) are not permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation or capstone project under Regulation MSS 16; or
(d) have failed to submit a satisfactory new or revised dissertation or capstone project under Regulation MSS 16; or
(e) have exceeded the maximum period of registration.

may be required to discontinue their studies.

MSS 20.1. In the field of Clinical Psychology, candidates who have failed any two practicum courses at their first attempt (i.e. PSYC7029, 7030, 8011, 8012, 8013, 8014) may be required to discontinue their studies.

MSS 20.2. In the field of Educational Psychology, candidates who have failed any two practicum courses at their first attempt may be required to discontinue their studies.

Grading systems

MSS 21. Individual courses shall be graded according to the one of the following grading systems:

(a) Letter grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment as follows:

Grade	*Standard*	*Grade Point*
A+	Excellent	4.3
A		4.0
A-		3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B		3.0
B-		2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C		2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

or

(b) 'Pass' or 'Fail'.

Courses graded according to (b) above shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

or

(c) 'Pass', 'Fail', or 'Distinction'.

Courses graded according to (b) or (c) above shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

Classification of awards

MSS 22. On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

PSYCHOLOGY
[MSocSc(Psy)]

The Department of Psychology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology. The mission of this MSocSc programme in Psychology is to provide high quality postgraduate education in psychology. The programme incorporates intensive research training, adopts a fit-for-purpose problem-based learning approach, and makes a capstone experience for every student in this programme so as to better equip our graduates for further studies or future career in psychology.

CURRICULUM

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits. For the "dissertation" option, candidates are required to complete seven compulsory courses (6 credits each), a dissertation (12 credits) and an elective course (6 credits). For the "non-dissertation" option, candidates are required to complete seven compulsory courses (6 credits each), a capstone project in psychology (6 credits) and two elective courses (6 credits each) from the elective course list of this programme.

Compulsory courses

PSYC7301. Introduction to research methods in psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7302. Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7303. Biological psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7304. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7305. Developmental psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7306. Personality psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7307. Social psychology (6 credits)

Elective courses

PSYC7310. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)
PSYC7311. Internship in psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7312. Introduction to concepts and approaches of therapeutic psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7313. Introduction to health psychology and wellbeing (6 credits)
PSYC7314. Professional ethics and issues in psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7315. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)
PSYC7316. Special topics in psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7318. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7319. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

(Note: Not all the elective courses listed will necessarily be offered every year)

Capstone experience courses

PSYC7308. Dissertation in psychology (12 credits)
PSYC7317. Capstone project in psychology (6 credits)

Dissertation option: Full-time candidates are required to take four courses in each of the 1st and 2nd semesters, in addition to a full-year dissertation course. Part-time candidates are required to take five courses in the 1st year and, in addition to the dissertation course, three courses in

the 2nd year of study. Any variations from this pattern are subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

Non-dissertation option: Full-time candidates are required to take five courses in each of the 1st and 2nd semesters. Part-time candidates are required to take five courses in the 1st year and five courses in the 2nd year of study. Any variations from this pattern are subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

For the compulsory and elective psychology courses, candidates are required to participate in the problem-based inquiry for each course. In preparation, they should complete the required assigned readings and are encouraged to engage in self-directed learning by reading additional self-selected relevant materials.

Candidates who are enrolled in a capstone experience course are required to conduct a capstone project or write a dissertation on an approved topic under the supervision of a faculty member in his/her final year of study. Both the dissertation and the capstone project report shall be presented not later than June 15 of the final academic year of study.

Candidates who had taken similar courses in a programme which is designed to bring the degree holder up to the standard of a graduate majoring in psychology may not be approved to take similar courses listed under (1). Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three courses with either one course from each of the following combinations:
- PSYC7303 / PSYC7304,
- PSYC7305
- PSYC7306 / PSYC7307, and
no exemption is allowed for the research methods courses, i.e., PSYC7301 and PSYC7302.

Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take one elective course from the elective course list of this programme or one of the postgraduate seminar courses (PSYC7021, PSYC7022, PSYC7023, PSYC6025) in lieu of each exempted course to meet the degree requirements.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Compulsory Courses

PSYC7301. Introduction to research methods in psychology (6 credits)

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research techniques in psychology. It is designed to provide students with the basic background in research design and data analysis. The logic of statistical inference and scientific explanation, the merits and limitations of quantitative approaches to the study of psychological phenomena, and research ethics will be discussed.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7302. Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)

This course is designed to extend students' quantitative and research skills so that they are prepared to conduct their own independent empirical research. It will build on what students already learned in PSYC7301 to cover more advanced quantitative methods commonly used in Psychology.
Assessment: 100% coursework
Prerequisites: PSYC7301.

PSYC7303. 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 psychopathology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; psychophysiology.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7304. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)

This course covers how humans learn to deal with information from the environment in everyday life. Topics include various aspects of perception, attention, memory, and language. Students will be involved in conducting experiments on cognitive functioning as part of the coursework.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7305. Developmental psychology (6 credits)

This course covers current issues in developmental psychology and their applied implications. Students will actively solve problems and conduct mini projects related to selected topics in human development. There will be an emphasis on understanding basic concepts and theories of human development, research methodology and issues in developmental change, as well as biological, environmental and cognitive influences on development.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7306. Personality psychology (6 credits)

This course will critically examine a number of theories. 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

PSYC7307. Social psychology (6 credits)

This course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers topics in social thinking (e.g., social perception, social judgement, relationship between attitude and behaviour), social influence (e.g., cultural influence, conformity and obedience, persuasion, and group dynamics), and social relations (e.g., prejudice, aggression, interpersonal attraction, and altruistic behaviour). Current research issues in social psychology will form part of the discussion, and students will be guided to apply the knowledge in real-life situations.
Assessment: 100% coursework

Elective Courses

PSYC7310. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)

This course introduces basic principles of brain-behaviour relationships. Research methods for investigating brain-behavior 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.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7311. Internship in psychology (6 credits)

Students will have an opportunity to i) learn to do research as an intern in ongoing empirical research projects under a teacher's supervision in the Department of Psychology, OR ii) under special circumstances, engage in an approved non-paid student-initiated internship in local organizations that can provide students an experience that is relevant to the skills and knowledge of the discipline of Psychology. The non-paid student-initiated internship is subject to the approval of the Department. For research internship in campus, students are required to spent 10-12 hours per week assisting various research activities. The internship includes participating in lab meetings or meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report. Information about research projects offering internship placements and application procedure will be available in the Psychology Department webpage. For internship in local organizations, students are expected to apply psychology knowledge (including models, theories and/or concepts), critical thinking, and analytical skills acquired at the University to analyze real-life situations.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

PSYC7312. Introduction to concepts and approaches of therapeutic psychology (6 credits)

This course provides a theoretical and experiential foundation for counselling and further training in the mental health profession. Major theoretical approaches in psychotherapy are surveyed and critiqued. Experiential learning is used to help elucidate some of the course material and facilitate reflection. Topics covered also include basic counseling skills and practice, ethics, diversity and cultural values, indigenous and community-based models, and outcome and process research.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7313. Introduction to health psychology and wellbeing (6 credits)

This course will provide a critical overview of both the psychological and social aspects of human health and wellbeing. Students will gain some foundations in understanding the role of psychology in the health context. Topics covered in this course include health behaviors, coping with health-related stress, social support and health, psychoimmunology, management of chronic illnesses, and patient-practitioner interaction etc.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7314. Professional ethics and issues in psychology (6 credits)

The purpose of the course is to provide a general ethical guidance to cover typical situations encountered by professional psychologists. Models of ethical decision making will be introduced, discussed, and applied. In addition to the Code of Professional Conduct published by local professional bodies (e.g. the Hong Kong Psychological Society), a number of ethical codes, guidelines, and standards of practice will be reviewed.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7315. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)

This course surveys the major concepts and techniques in the field of psychometrics, and provides students with some hands-on experience with commonly used tests. Topics covered include: the context of testing and measurement; the testing process; test standardization; reliability and validity; intelligence and its appraisal; personality assessment; special domain testing; occupational applications; large-scale measurements; ethics and prospects.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7316. Special topics in psychology (6 credits)

This course provides an opportunity to study in some depth an area of psychology of interest to students and a staff member alike. Individual topics may have special requirements for eligibility. Students taking this course may select one topic from a list of topics to be announced in the semester immediately prior to that in which they are taken.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7318. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)

This course focuses on how psychological theories are applied to learning, teaching, and the facilitation of human growth. The topics include major developmental theories and their application to learning and instruction, learning theories from both behavioral and cognitive traditions, effective teaching methods and practices, learners' individual and group differences, achievement motivation, and assessment. Students will be involved in learning activities that require self-reflection and integration of daily life experience.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7319. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the modern concepts of psychopathology. It covers topics on the core features, conceptualization, and treatment of major groups of mental disorders. Relevance in everyday life, cultural issues and ethical dilemmas will form part of the discussion.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Capstone Experience courses

PSYC7308. Dissertation in psychology (12 credits)

A candidate should conduct an independent empirical investigation of a psychological problem under the supervision of a faculty member. A successful dissertation should represent the result of the candidate's research which displays some originality and demonstrates a sound understanding of the field of study and the appropriate research methods. The dissertation should be about 8,000 to 10,000 words in length (excluding tables, figures, bibliographies, and appendices). The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented not later than June 15 of the final academic year of study. Candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as candidates for the degree.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7317. Capstone project in psychology (6 credits)

This course comprises an independent research study in an area of psychology of the candidates' choice, subject to availability of supervision. Students will conduct a research project or read within an area of study, to be agreed with their instructor, and write an extended essay or research project report. The essay or project write-up should be about 4,000 to 5,000 words in length (excluding tables, figures, bibliographies, and appendices) and should follow the practice of communication in top psychology journals.
Assessment: 100% coursework

Replacement Courses (as replacement for the exempted courses only)

PSYC7021. Postgraduate seminar in cognitive psychology (6 credits)

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Cognitive Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7022. Postgraduate seminar in social psychology (6 credits)

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Social Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC7023. Postgraduate seminar in developmental psychology (6 credits)

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Developmental Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.
Assessment: 100% coursework

PSYC6025. Postgraduate seminar in scientific writing for psychology (6 credits)

This seminar course addresses writing skills in relation to Psychological research. Students will engage in a series of assignments designed to improve the fluency and quality of their writing. Particular efforts will be focused on improving the conceptual clarity of writing. Regular feedback will help students improve upon their writing skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework