

# Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences

Master's Programmes

► Year 2025 Intake



# Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences

The Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences, formerly known as Applied Social Sciences, prides itself for a long track record in offering quality education delivered by a multi-disciplinary team of faculty members. The mission of the Department is to offer professional education in the disciplines of Applied Sociology, Counselling, Criminology, Psychology, and Social Work, excel in these related research areas, and nurture students to become good citizens and leaders, and create knowledge for social advancement.

	Programme Code	Page
<b>Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences</b>		<b>01</b>
<b>Master of Arts in Applied Social Sciences</b>	<b>P77 (MAASS)</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>Master of Social Sciences in Psychology</b>	<b>P76 (MSSPSY)</b>	<b>08</b>
<b>Master of Social Sciences in Counselling</b>	<b>P20 (MSSC)</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Master of Social Work</b>	<b>P71 (MSW)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>General Information</b>		<b>20</b>

# Master of Arts in Applied Social Sciences

<b>Programme Code:</b>	MAASS (P77)
<b>Normal Duration:</b>	1 Year (full-time) / 2 Years (part-time/combined mode)
<b>Maximum Study Period:</b>	2.5 Years (full-time) / 5 Years (part-time/combined mode)
<b>Mode of Programme:</b>	Combined†
<b>Minimum No. of Credits Required:</b>	30 (for Sociology / Criminology / Clinical Mental Health Practice Stream*) 33 (for Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation Stream)
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	English

## Programme Aims

The programme aims to train social science practitioners with sound knowledge in theory and practice to help people, organisations and communities develop innovative solutions, and to accomplish excellence in undertaking research in social sciences.

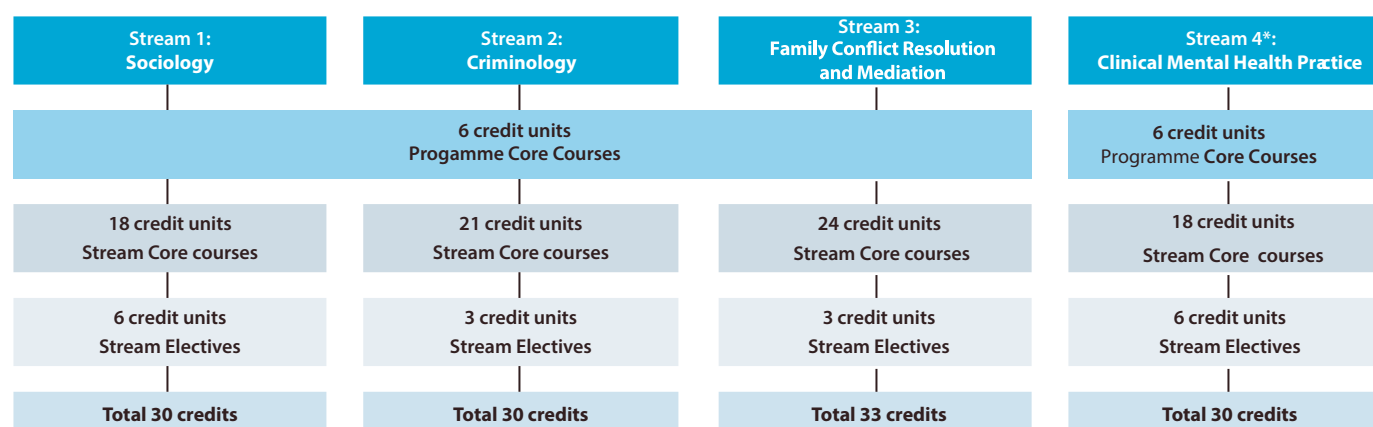
## Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs):

Upon successful completion of the programme, students should be able to:

- ▶ evaluate major principles/theories in different disciplines in social sciences;
- ▶ demonstrate the ability to integrate major principles/theories in analysing social problems;
- ▶ demonstrate the ability to design and conduct research in social sciences; and
- ▶ devise innovative practices in social sciences to real-life problems.

## Programme Profile

### Master of Arts in Applied Social Sciences



\* Subject to University's approval

## Programme Features

- ▶ Students can decide on their own study path, schedule and load for each semester in order to complete the programme in 1 or 2 to 5 years. Such a flexible structure allows students to pace and plan their own study to best suit their personal and career development needs.
- ▶ MA degree with four main streams - 1) Sociology and 2) Criminology 3) Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation and 4) Clinical Mental Health Practice\*. Applicants are required to indicate the selected stream when submitting applications; and admitted students are not allowed a change of stream.
- ▶ The Stream courses will be taught by a strong team of experts from sociology, criminology, psychology, social work, counselling and psychology backgrounds. Students from various backgrounds also form circles to enrich synergy for effective learning.

### Stream 1: Sociology

- ▶ Core courses provide a solid foundation on applied sociology theories and social research methodologies.
- ▶ "Integrative Project" is an opportunity for students to apply sociological theories, methods and ethics. The Project focuses on an actual problem or issue.
- ▶ Students can select any two electives from a list of courses in different fields.

### Stream 2: Criminology

- ▶ The stream aims at training students in becoming competent researchers and/or practitioners at an advanced level in the key areas of policing and offender rehabilitation.

### Stream 3: Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation

- ▶ The stream equips professionals with skills and enhances their professional knowledge in the field of dispute resolution, and imparts professional capabilities in mediating and handling family conflicts and problems through practical training.
- ▶ This enables them not only to apply relevant skills and knowledge at work, but also to invest in and develop the family mediation profession, giving them an advantage in the job market.

### Stream 4: Clinical Mental Health Practice\*

- ▶ The stream aims at providing students, who are social work and helping professionals, advanced level training in clinical mental health practice.
- ▶ The stream equips students with various mental health theories and practical skills which can help them develop their specialized knowledge and practice competence to work with a diversity of people with mental health problems, such as schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, special educational needs, prolonged grief disorder, and dementia.

*\* Subject to University's approval*

## Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission, you must:

- ▶ hold a recognised bachelor's degree from one of the universities in Hong Kong or from any overseas institution recognised for this purpose by the University; or
- ▶ hold such other qualifications as deemed acceptable by the University as equivalent to the above.

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English should also fulfill the following minimum English proficiency requirement:

- ▶ a score of 79 (Internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ an overall band score of 6.5 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ a score of 450 of band 6 in the Chinese mainland's College English Test; or
- ▶ other equivalent qualifications.

<sup>@</sup> TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years. Applicants are required to provide their English test results obtained within the two years preceding the commencement of the University's application period.

<sup>#</sup> Applicants are required to arrange for the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to send their TOEFL results directly to the University. The TOEFL institution code for CityU is 3401.

## Programme Structure

There are no intermediate exits, students may obtain the MA degree by completing a total of 6 credit units of programme core courses, and

- ▶ 18 credit units stream core courses and 6 credit units electives for "Sociology Stream" or
- ▶ 21 credit units stream core courses and 3 credit units electives for "Criminology Stream" or
- ▶ 24 credit units stream core courses and 3 credit units electives for "Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation Stream" or
- ▶ 18 credit units stream core courses and 6 credit units electives for "Clinical Mental Health Practice"

### Programme Core Courses (6 credit units)

For Stream 1: Sociology, Stream 2: Criminology and Stream 3: Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation, students are required to take 2 Programme Core Courses (6 credit units)

SS5302	Research Methods in Social Sciences	3
SS5426	Social Problems	3
For Stream 4: Clinical Mental Health Practice*, students are required to take 2 Programme Core Courses (6 credit units)		
SS5803	Psychopathology	3
SS5837	Community Mental Health: Theory and Practice	3

## Streams

Students are required to specialize in one stream and take the required credits of courses from their chosen stream

**Stream 1: Sociology****Stream 2: Criminology****Stream 3: Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation****Stream 4: Clinical Mental Health Practice\*****Stream 1: Sociology****i) Stream Core Courses**

**Students are required to take 5 courses (18 credit units)**

SS5400	Applied Sociology	3
SS5401	Social Science Perspectives	3
SS5423	Programme Design & Evaluation	3
SS5428	Applied Social Statistical Analysis	3
SS6591	Integrative Project	6

**ii) Stream Electives**

**Students are required to take any 2 courses (6 credit units)**

SS5204	Penology & Rehabilitation of Offenders	3
SS5303	Criminal Justice in Hong Kong and the Pacific	3
SS5304	Psychology and Crime	3
SS5305	Policing Studies	3
SS5316	Aggressive Behavior and Homicide	3
SS5427	Special Topics in Applied Sociology	3

**Stream 2: Criminology****i) Stream Core Courses**

**Students are required to take 6 courses (21 credit units)**

SS5204	Penology & Rehabilitation of Offenders	3
SS5301	Advanced Theories in Criminology	3
SS5303	Criminal Justice in Hong Kong and the Pacific	3
SS5304	Psychology and Crime	3
SS5305	Policing Studies	3
SS6308	Master's Thesis in Criminology	6

**ii) Stream Electives**

**Students are required to take any 1 course (3 credit units)**

SS5316	Aggressive Behaviour and Homicide	3
SS5423	Programme Design & Evaluation	3
SS5427	Special Topics in Applied Sociology	3
SS5428	Applied Social Statistics Analysis	3



### Stream 3: Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation

#### i) Stream Core Courses

**Students are required to take 7 courses (24 credit units)**

SS5812	Negotiation and Mediation in Work	3
SS5824	Domestic Violence: Prevention and Treatment	3
SS5825	Marital Preparation, Enrichment and Therapy	3
SS5827	Family Mediation: Theory and Practice	3
SS5828	Family Mediation Laboratory	6
SS5829	Ethics and Legal Issues of Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation	3
SS6403	Master's Integrative Project in Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation	3

#### ii) Stream Electives

**Students are required to take any 1 course (3 credit units)**

SS5110	Assessment and Interventions in Mental Health Counselling	3
SS5208	Cognitive-behavioural Interventions	3
SS5803	Psychopathology	3
SS5821	Counselling Children and Youth	3

### Stream 4: Clinical Mental Health Practice\*

#### i) Stream Core Courses

**Students are required to take 6 courses (18 credit units)**

SS5110	Assessment and Interventions in Mental Health Counselling	3
SS5836	Diagnostic Assessment and Medical Treatment in Mental Disorders	3
SS5838	Mental Health Crisis Intervention and Resolution	3
SS5839	Working with Child and Adolescent Mental Health	3
SS5840	Dementia Care and Mental Health Counselling for Older People	3
SS6404	Master's Integrative Project in Clinical Mental Health Practice	3

#### ii) Stream Electives

**Students are required to take any 2 courses (6 credit units)**

SS5208	Cognitive-behavioural Interventions	3
SS5216	Contemporary Intervention Approaches	3
SS5302	Research Methods in Social Sciences	3
SS5426	Social Problems	3
SS5801	Counselling in Society and Across Culture	3
SS5825	Marital Preparation, Enrichment and Therapy	3

*\* Subject to University's approval*

## Career Prospects

### Stream 1: Sociology

Sample areas of employment in applied sociology are, for example, in the following fields and organisations: private research and consulting firms, government and public sector organisations, political parties and interest groups, third sector and civil society organisations, marketing and advertising firms, public relations and media firms, social services agencies, and education sector.

Graduates may also pursue postgraduate programmes in sociology, psychology, social welfare and human services at the doctoral level.

**Stream 2: Criminology**

Graduates in criminology could pursue a career in law enforcement/ disciplinary forces (e.g. Hong Kong Police Force, Hong Kong Correctional Services Department, Independent Commission Against Corruption, Hong Kong Immigration Department, Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department, and Hong Kong Fire Services Department), private security agencies (e.g. corporate security firms, threat assessment and management agencies, anti-fraud agencies, and private investigative agencies), and non-governmental organisations that serve the forensic and related populations (e.g. ex-offenders, drug abusers, victims of crime, and at-risk youth). Graduates may also pursue postgraduate programmes in criminology, criminal justice, and other related fields (e.g. forensic psychology, law, and social work) at the doctoral level.

**Stream 3: Family Conflict Resolution and Mediation**

The stream provides an invaluable opportunity for students to expand their skill sets and enhance their professional expertise in a specific area. The courses provide students with practical knowledge, hands-on training, and specialized expertise in dealing with family conflicts and issues. This enhanced skill set enhances their advantage in the job market, as employers increasingly value professionals who can effectively manage conflicts and facilitate constructive dialogue.

**Stream 4: Clinical Mental Health Practice\***

Students will be adequately equipped to work with a variety of people with mental health problems and needs. After graduation, students will be knowledgeable and skillful in making assessment on different mental disorders and provide professional support to people with mental health problems. Graduates may pursue a career in mental health care in a variety of service settings to promote the mental health of individuals, families and communities.

*\* Subject to University's approval*

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**Tuition Fee:** **Pay on credit unit basis**  
**HK\$6,200 per credit**

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**Programme Email:** **mssaps@cityu.edu.hk**

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# Master of Social Sciences in Psychology

<b>Programme Code:</b>	MSSPSY (P76)
<b>Normal Duration:</b>	1 Year (full-time) / 2 Years (part-time/combined mode)
<b>Maximum Study Period:</b>	2 Years (full-time) / 5 Years (part-time/combined mode)
<b>Mode of Programme:</b>	Combined†
<b>Minimum No. of Credits Required:</b>	30
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	English

## Programme Aims

This conversion program is designed to provide non-psychology degree holders with the knowledge, skills, exposure, and insights for (1) analyzing human behaviors from a psychological perspective, (2) developing research expertise in applying psychology to relevant settings, and (3) pursuing advanced professional training and a career in psychology and closely related areas. Upon completion of the program, students will be eligible to apply for graduate membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society.

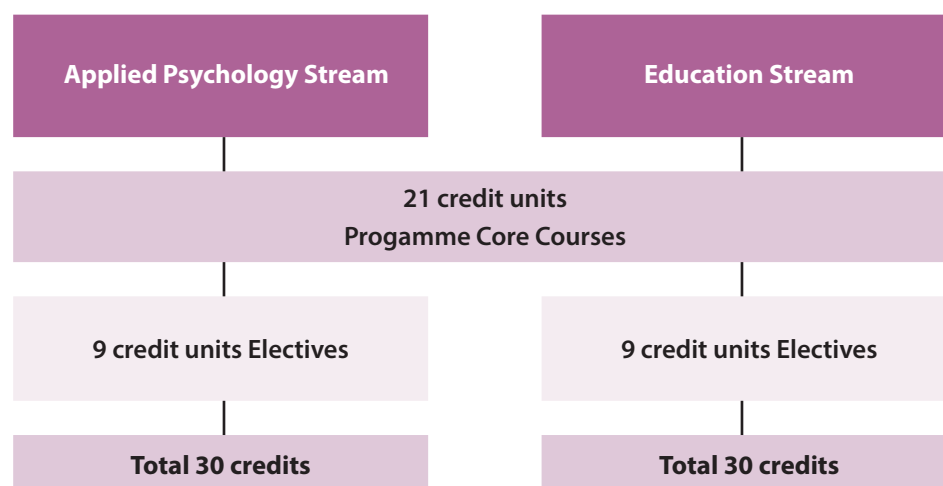
## Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs):

Upon successful completion of this Programme, students should be able to:

- ▶ critically evaluate major principles/ theories in core areas of psychology
- ▶ apply major psychological theories/principles to analyze human behaviors in real life situations;
- ▶ critically evaluate research evidence published in psychological journals;
- ▶ design and carry out psychological research independently; and
- ▶ appreciate the close connection between psychology and everyday experiences.

## Programme Profile

### Master of Social Sciences in Psychology



### Programme Features

- ▶ Designed primarily to provide degree-holders having no undergraduate training in psychology to pursue further study and a career in psychology.
- ▶ Focus on the cultivation of a distinctive blend of knowledge and skills relevant to advanced training and different careers in psychology.
- ▶ Multiple concentrations catering for different interests and career aspirations.
- ▶ Classes meet primarily on weekday evenings.
- ▶ Credit transfer could be granted for equivalent level of study.

### Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission, you must satisfy the General Entrance Requirements and:

- ▶ have a recognized bachelor's degree from one of the universities in Hong Kong or from any overseas institutions recognized for this purpose by the University;
- ▶ hold such other qualifications as deemed acceptable by the University as equivalent to the above; or
- ▶ have evidence of academic and professional attainments acceptable for this purpose by the University; AND
- ▶ provide documentary evidence that they have a) completed a course of introductory psychology offered by a recognized university or institution, or b) obtained relevant learning or working experiences related to psychology.

An introductory course in psychology is considered to be a course which is taught at the undergraduate level and (1) provides an overview of major topics in psychology such as biopsychology, perception, cognition, learning, motivation, emotion, intelligence, personality and social psychology, and (2) lasts at least for one semester.

Applicants who do not have previous experience in psychology may enroll in a make-up course, e.g. SS1101 Basic Psychology or equivalent, to meet the admission requirement. For details, please read the Enrollment information.

Applicants who plan to apply for admission can complete or enroll the make-up course before admission. Application for enrolment in the make-up course, e.g. SS1101 Basic Psychology, usually starts at the end of the first semester in which it usually offers in the second semester (subject to annual review if applicable).

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English should also fulfill the following minimum English proficiency requirement:

- ▶ a score of 79 (Internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)<sup>@</sup>#; or
- ▶ an overall band score of 6.5 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ a score of 450 of band 6 in the Chinese mainland's College English Test; or
- ▶ other equivalent qualifications

<sup>@</sup> TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years. Applicants are required to provide their English test results obtained within the two years preceding the commencement of the University's application period.

<sup>#</sup> Applicants are required to arrange for the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to send their TOEFL results directly to the University. The TOEFL institution code for CityU is 3401.

Remarks: For the Education stream, preference will be given to those who have had at least 2 years working experience in the educational setting. For both streams, prior knowledge about research methods and statistics would be an advantage.

## Programme Requirement

Students may obtain the MSocSc degree by studying in either Applied Psychology Stream or Education Stream.

### 1. Common Core Courses ( 21 credit units)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Credit Units	Remarks
SS5750	Perception and Cognition	P5	3	
SS5752	Life Span Development	P5	3	
SS5753	Advanced Social Psychology	P5	3	
SS5756	Biological Basis of Behavior	P5	3	
SS5757	Personality Theories and Assessment	P5	3	
SS5783	Psychological Research Design and Analysis	P5	3	
SS5799	Capstone Project in Psychology	P5	3	Either one of the two
SS5798B*	Dissertation	P5	6	

\*SS5798B is offered as an option to students who have strong interest and ability in research. The availability of this option is subject to the approval by the Course Leader of SS5798B.

### 2. Courses for Respective Path ( 9 credit units)

Students are required to take any 9 credit units from respective stream course list.

#### Applied Psychology Stream

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Credit Units
SS5755	Applying Psychology to Contemporary Issues	P5	3
SS5782	Psychopathology and Diagnosis of Mental Disorder	P5	3
SS5791	Advanced Health Psychology	P5	3
SS5794	Psychological Testing	P5	3

#### Education Stream

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Credit Units
SS5751	Learning and Behavior	P5	3
SS5758	Educational Psychology	P5	3
SS5759	Educational Assessment and Evaluation	P5	3
SS5763	Special Topics in Psychology of Education	P5	3

### Professional Accreditation

Upon completion of the program, students will be eligible to apply for graduate membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society. However, membership is granted on the basis of individual merits but not automatically upon application.

### Career Prospects

The master award allows graduates to pursue further study in psychology via the enrolment in research-based programs (e.g., MPhil or PhD) or professional training (e.g., clinical, educational or counseling psychology). A number of graduates of the predecessors of this programme have already become either researchers (e.g., college professors) or registered psychologists in clinical, education or counselling psychology.

Upon graduation, students who are qualified teachers and with a concentration in the Education stream are expected to be competent in teaching in inclusive settings.

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<b>Tuition Fee:</b>	<b>Pay on credit unit basis</b>
	<b>HK\$6,200 per credit</b>

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<b>Programme Email:</b>	<b>ssmssap@cityu.edu.hk</b>
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# Master of Social Sciences in Counselling

<b>Programme Code:</b>	MSSC (P20)
<b>Normal Duration:</b>	1 Year (full-time) / 2 Years (part-time)
<b>Maximum Study Period:</b>	2.5 Years (full-time) / 5 Years (part-time)
<b>Mode of Programme:</b>	Combined†
<b>Intermediate Award:</b>	Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling (PGDC) Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling (PGCC)
<b>Minimum No. of Credits Required:</b>	Master's Degree --30; Postgraduate Diploma -- 24 Postgraduate Certificate -- 12
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	English

## Programme Aims

This programme aims to develop the competence of professional practitioners working in a broad range of human services by offering professional and advanced education in counselling.

### For beginners in counselling:

- ▶ To acquire understanding of counselling theories and psychotherapies as well as case analyses and micro-counselling skills;
- ▶ To build up competence and personal qualities as professional counsellor;
- ▶ To apply counselling knowledge and skills in practice; and
- ▶ To prepare for advanced-level education and training.

### For practitioners with experience in counselling:

- ▶ To critically re-examine counselling theories and the 'theory-practice' link;
- ▶ To develop into a reflective practitioner with insights in self and practice;
- ▶ To set theoretical formulations and conduct ongoing assessment for devising appropriate intervention; and
- ▶ To build up cultural sensitivity and appreciation of client knowledge and strength.

## Programme Features\*

- ▶ For counselling practicum, the department will help students arrange their practicum sites as closely to their preference as possible. Students can also select their practicum sites on their own for practice training upon approval by the Practicum Coordinator.
- ▶ Excellent quality and ratio between the client contact hours and supervision hours in 2:1 in Counseling Practicum, consisting of 120 face-to-face direct client contact hours under 26 individual supervision hours and 36 group supervision hours.
- ▶ The graduates not only could register as a full member at Hong Kong Professional Counselling Association (HKPCA) but for those complete the counselling practicum also could register at British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) in the U.K., the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) in Australia, and BC Association of Clinical Counsellor (BCACC) in Canada.
- ▶ This programme has been recognized by the Hospital Authority (HA), the Occupational Therapist (II) and the Radiotherapist (II) ranks could be eligible to apply for the promotion to (I) rank.
- ▶ A common core in 'general counselling' with choices of programme electives in three areas: General electives; Research methods; and Specialised electives.

- ▶ For part-time students: A choice of two-semester practicum route or research route of professional preparation; for full-time students: An accelerated two-semester research route of academic preparation.
- ▶ Multiple exit points (Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling (PGCC), Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling (PGDC), and Master of Social Sciences in Counselling (MSSC)).

*\* Subject to update if applicable*

### Does this Programme Suit You?

This is a programme for:

- ▶ Counsellors and social workers seeking continuous professional education in counselling;
- ▶ Teachers providing school counselling service and 'embedded counselling' in classroom interaction with students;
- ▶ Health professionals working in medical and mental health settings;
- ▶ Human service professionals working with children, young people, parents, couples, and families; and
- ▶ Human resource managers responsible for personnel work, career counselling, and employee welfare.

### Course Load and Duration

- ▶ Part-time students normally take a course load of 6 to 9 credits (about 2 to 3 courses) per semester and complete the programme within 2 to 5 years.
- ▶ Full-time students normally take a course load of 12 to 18 credits (about 4 to 6 courses) per semester and complete the programme within 1 to 2.5 years.
- ▶ Classes will be held on weekday evenings and Saturday afternoons/evenings.

### Entrance Requirement

To be eligible for admission, you must

- ▶ hold a Bachelor's degree of one of the universities in Hong Kong or of any overseas institution recognised for this purpose by the University; or
- ▶ have obtained an equivalent qualification, or provide evidence of academic and professional attainments acceptable for this purpose by the University; and
- ▶ have preferably two years' working experience in social service, education, health, human services, human resources or related areas.

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English should also fulfill the following minimum English proficiency requirement:

- ▶ a score of 79 (Internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ an overall band score of 6.5 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ a score of 450 of band 6 in the Chinese mainland's College English Test; or
- ▶ other equivalent qualifications.

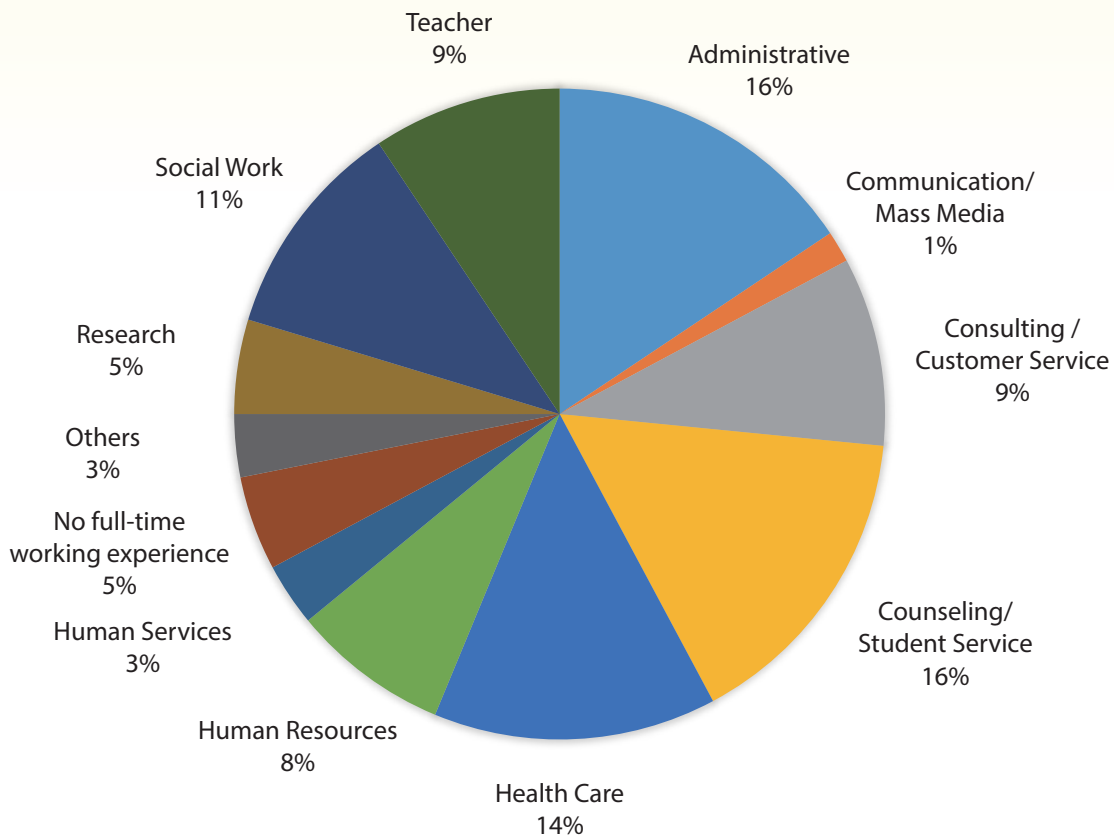
<sup>@</sup> TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years. Applicants are required to provide their English test results obtained within the two years preceding the commencement of the University's application period.

<sup>#</sup> Applicants are required to arrange for the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to send their TOEFL results directly to the University. The TOEFL institution code for CityU is 3401.



## Student Profile

### MSSC COHORT 2023 STUDENTS



## Curriculum Highlight

### SS5800 Counselling Theories and Practice

... to critically examine how selected counselling theories and therapy models are being used by practitioners in the context of exploring the positivist epistemology of counselling practice as revealed in the connection between theories and practice, and to make accurate case analyses and assessment on theoretical formulations. Then to devise an appropriate and specific counselling intervention for each individual. Integration of counselling theories and practice is highlighted.

### SS6806 Counselling Practicum (part-time mode only)

... to provide practice-based instruction of knowledge, attitudes, and skills required for effective participation in the counselling profession with confidence. It is the culminating activity in the training of professional counsellors with the opportunity for students to apply, under professional support through group and individual supervisions, counselling theories and skills integrally in real-world practice.

### SS6805 Project

... to provide hands-on experience in initiating, planning and implementing an independent research project with the view to foster disciplined thinking as a researcher and to develop the capacity for constructing counselling knowledge through empirical investigation.

### Students may obtain the MSSC degree either by completing

- ▶ Path A - full-time mode in one year with taking Project; or
- ▶ Path B - part-time mode in two years with taking either Project or Counselling Practicum

### Programme Structure

Programme curriculum is made up of (a) core courses; and (b) elective courses forming a "general electives" group, a "research methods" group, and a "specialised electives" group.

To graduate with the MSSC award, full-time students must complete the Project (two-semester course) in Semester B and Summer Term in their first year of study; for part-time students, to complete either the Counselling Practicum or the Project (both are two-semester courses) before the completion.

For Counselling Practicum, practicum sites for students to fulfill 120 clinical hours with 26 individual and 36 group supervision hours will be arranged in practicum practice.

Nature	Course Name		Credits	Level of Award		
				PGC	PGD	Master
Core Courses	SS5800 Counselling Theories and Practice		3	✓	✓	✓
	SS5801 Counselling in Society and Across Culture		3	–	✓	✓
	SS5802 Group Counselling and Therapy		3	✓	✓	✓
	SS5803 Psychopathology		3	–	✓	✓
	SS5822 Family-based Service and Family Practice		3	✓	✓	✓
	SS5841 Counselling Skills Laboratory and Pre-practicum		3	✓	✓	✓
	SS6805 Project <u>OR</u> SS6806 Counselling Practicum		6	–	–	✓
Programme Electives*	General Electives	SS5208 Cognitive-Behavioural Interventions	3	–	Take 2 out of 10	Take 2 out of 10
		SS5430 Case Management and Practice	3			
		SS5752 Life Span Development	3			
		SS5757 Personality Theories and Assessment	3			
		SS5805 Narrative-based Therapeutic Conversations: Theory and Practice	3			
	Research Methods	SS5302 Research Methods in Social Sciencesv	3			
	Specialised Electives	SS5110 Assessment and Interventions in Mental Health Counselling	3			
		SS5316 Aggressive Behaviour and Homicide	3			
		SS5814 Vocational Counselling and Assessment	3			
		SS5821 Counselling Children and Youth	3			
		SS5832 Counselling Older Adults	3			
Total Credits				12	24	30

\* Subject to update

### Career Prospects

The programme is designed for graduates from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and supports continual professional development. It opens up career fields and enhances career advancement in human services (notably counselling, social work, and health care), education, and human resources management where sensitivity and effectiveness in working with people is an asset.

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<b>Tuition Fee:</b>	<b>Pay on credit unit basis</b>
	<b>HK\$6,200 per credit</b>

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<b>Programme Email:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:mssc@cityu.edu.hk">mssc@cityu.edu.hk</a></b>
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# Master of Social Work

<b>Programme Code:</b>	MSW (P71)
<b>Normal Duration:</b>	2 Years (full-time) / 3 Years (part-time)
<b>Maximum Study Period:</b>	5 Years (full-time) / 7.5 Years (part-time)
<b>Mode of Programme:</b>	Combined†
<b>Minimum No. of Credits Required:</b>	Master's Degree --55
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	English

The MSW programme is a self-funded programme with the aim to train professionals qualifying for recognised social work qualification (RSW) at the Master's degree level. It aspires to train students becoming ethically-oriented social work practitioners being competent, reflective and good in professional practice.

Upon successful completion of the programme, students should be able to

- ▶ use appropriate knowledge, theories and demonstrate skills in social work in order to become competent and professional in their practice;
- ▶ reflect on their own practice so that they can intellectually construct, articulate and evaluate their own philosophy and practice in reference to social work values and ethics;
- ▶ demonstrate the ability to integrate theory in practice in an innovative way, discover and examine culturally relevant social work practice;
- ▶ evaluate professional activities and service programmes, changing social needs and advocacy for appropriate welfare reforms and service delivery.

## Programme Features

- ▶ 2 years for the full-time MSW degree, with 1 concurrent placement in Year 2 Semester A and 1 block fieldwork placement in Year 2 Semester B (maximum study period: 5 years). Concurrent fieldwork placement is conducted in 17 weeks with 3 days per week or 6 sessions whereas block fieldwork placement is conducted in 10 weeks with 5 days per week;
- ▶ 3 years for the part-time MSW degree to students taking two concurrent fieldwork placements in Year 2 and 3 Semester A & B respectively (maximum study period: 7.5 years). Concurrent fieldwork placement in the part-time study mode is conducted in 25 weeks with 2 days per week or 4 sessions per week;
- ▶ The MSW programme consists of 15 core courses amounting to 49 credits plus another 2 electives carrying 6 credits, making a total of 55 credit-units in the programme;
- ▶ 900 fieldwork training hours (800 hours direct fieldwork placements plus 100 hours placement preparation or related activities);
- ▶ Strengthening of the training in social work values and ethics, theories and practice to three courses emphasizing working with individuals and families, groups, community work and macro-level social work practice;
- ▶ Addition of human behavior and social environment course subject areas, and social sciences theories for social work to those students without a social sciences training background;
- ▶ Legal knowledge and perspectives for social workers; enhancing mental health training, practice-related electives and advocacy for social work students;
- ▶ Integrative Social Work Seminar to train students becoming competent, reflective and good in professional practice.

## Programme Features

The curriculum of the year 1 of full-time 2 years mode and the year 1 and year 2 of part-time 3 years mode aspires to train students with ethical principles and foundations of social work practice, social work values, and professional ethics, theories and practice skills in working with individual and families, groups and community, social welfare policies, social welfare management, legal issues for social workers and social work research methods. The curriculum of the year 2 of full-time 2 years mode and the year 2 and year 3 of part-time 3 years mode strives to equip students to have the required professional supervised fieldwork training hours and the 100-hour Practicum-related learning workshops, plus the study of Integrative Social Work Seminar and elective courses in practice-related social work practice settings: e.g. Assessment and Interventions in Mental Health Counselling, Cognitive-Behavioural Interventions, Group Counselling and Therapy, Counselling Children and Youth, Working with Families in Transition, Counselling Older Adults. Students who (1) are non-social sciences graduates, or (2) have taken either psychology or sociology but not the other, are required to complete non-credit bearing Social Sciences Workshops SS5115 Social Sciences Theories for Social Work\*. These workshops are to be run in an intensive mode on Saturday within the first five weeks of the semester.

Core Courses (49 Credits)		Credit
SS5111	Social Welfare Policy System and Reforms	3
SS5112	Social Welfare Management	3
SS5114	Legal Issues for the Social Worker	3
SS5117	Social Work as a Profession	3
SS5209	Social Work Theories & Practice I: Working with Individuals and Families	3
SS5210	Social Work Theories & Practice II: Working with Groups	3
SS5211	Social Work Theories & Practice III: Community Work and Macro-level Social Work Practice	3
SS5212	Human Behaviour and Diversity	3
SS5213	Social Work Research Methods	3
SS6219	Practicum Related Workshop I	1
SS6220	Practicum Related Workshop II	1
SS6221	Practicum Related Workshop III	1
SS6291	Fieldwork I	8
SS6292	Fieldwork II	8
SS6293	Integrative Social Work Seminar	3
Programme Electives (6 credits) take any 2 electives		Credit
SS5110	Assessment and Interventions in Mental Health Counselling	3
SS5208	Cognitive-Behavioural Interventions	3
SS5214	Working with Families in Transition	3
SS5215	Diversity and Social Work	3
SS5317	Social Work Practice in a School Setting	3
SS5318	Critical Social Work Practice	3
SS5802	Group Counselling and Therapy	3
SS5803	Psychopathology	3
SS5805	Narrative-based Therapeutic Conversations: Theory and Practice	3
SS5821	Counselling Children and Youth	3
SS5824	Domestic Violence: Prevention and Treatment	3
SS5832	Counselling Older Adults	3
Social Sciences Workshops		Credit
SS5115	Social Science Theory for Social Work*	0

\* Social Sciences Workshops: Students are required to take non-credit bearing social sciences workshops SS5115 Social Sciences Theories for Social Work on Saturday (whole day) of the first 5 weeks of year 1 Semester A if they are non-social sciences graduates or have taken either psychology or sociology but not the other.

## Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission, you must:

- ▶ hold a recognised bachelor's degree from one of the universities in Hong Kong or from any overseas institution recognised for this purpose by the University; or
- ▶ hold such other qualifications as deemed acceptable by University as equivalent to the above; and
- ▶ pass an admission interview.

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English should also fulfill the following minimum English proficiency requirement:

- ▶ a score of 79 (Internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ an overall band score of 6.5 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS)<sup>@</sup>; or
- ▶ a score of 450 of band 6 in the Chinese mainland's College English Test; or
- ▶ other equivalent qualifications.

<sup>@</sup> TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years. Applicants are required to provide their English test results obtained within the two years preceding the commencement of the University's application period.

<sup>#</sup> Applicants are required to arrange for the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to send their TOEFL results directly to the University. The TOEFL institution code for CityU is 3401.

## Career Prospects

- ▶ Upon graduation, students are eligible to be a Registered Social Worker (RSW) in Hong Kong.

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**Tuition Fee:**

**Pay on credit unit basis**

**HK\$6,200 per credit**

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**Programme Email:**

**assmsw@cityu.edu.hk**

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# General Information

## Fee

<b>Application Fee:</b>	HK\$500 for online application (non-refundable, to be paid at the time of application)	
<b>Programme Fee:</b>	<b>Local students:</b>	HK\$6,200 per credit for all programmes
	<b>Non-Local students:</b>	HK\$6,200 per credit for all programmes

## Government Loan

Full-time and part-time students who meet the residency requirements may apply for Non-means-tested Loan Scheme administered by the Hong Kong Government Student Finance Office (SFO). Application procedures can be referred to the SFO website.

Enquiries: 2150 6222

Website: <https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/>

## Application

You can submit online application at <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/taught-postgraduate-programmes/apply-now>

Application deadline may be extended depending on the number of applications received. However, priority will be given to the applicants who submit an application before the initial deadline.

## Mode of Programme

† Combined mode: Local students taking programmes in combined mode can attend full-time (12-18 credit units per semester) or part-time (no more than 11 credit units per semester) study in different semesters without seeking approval from the University. For non-local students, they will be admitted to these programmes for either full-time or part-time studies. Non-local students must maintain the required credit load for their full-time or part-time studies and any changes will require approval from the University.

## Enquiry

### For academic matters

Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)  
City University of Hong Kong  
LI 5510, Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Academic Building  
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong

**Enquiries:** (852) 3442-8991/ (852) 3442-8996

**Fax:** (852) 3442-0283

**Email:** [ssgo@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:ssgo@cityu.edu.hk)

**Website:** [www.cityu.edu.hk/ss](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/ss)

### Programme Website:

<https://ssweb.cityu.edu.hk/study/taught-postgraduate-programmes>

### For Master's Programmes (Admission)

Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies (SGS)  
City University of Hong Kong  
4/F Fong Yun Wah Building  
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong

**Enquiries:** (852) 3442-5588

**Fax:** (852) 3442-0187

**Email:** [tpadmit@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:tpadmit@cityu.edu.hk)

### Website:

[www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/taught-postgraduate-programmes](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/taught-postgraduate-programmes)

**Enquiry form:** [www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/enquiries](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/enquiries)

