Master of Social Sciences in Psychology

Information Seminar

Department of Psychology
The University of Hong Kong
Before we start ...

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- Dr. Henry Ng

- Ms. Janice Wang

- Ms. Karen Lam
Today ...

- Overview
- Program structure
- Study mode: full-time vs. part-time
- Is this for you?
- Application
- Career path
- Q&A
HKU, not HKU SPACE
Overview

MSocSc (Psy) – an improved program

- Building on success
  - Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology (est. 1978)
    - Academically excellent students
    - Deeply interested in psychology
    - Benefited significantly from our PCPsy program

- Master of Social Sciences in Psychology
  - First intake: September 2015
  - Enhanced teaching and learning
Overview
MSocSc (Psy) – objectives

- For NON-PSYCHOLOGY Bachelor’s degree holders
  - To acquire a solid foundation in psychology
  - To gain research competence
  - To prepare for career development in psychology and related fields
Overview

MSocSc (Psy) – key features

- Emphasis on research training
  - Two research methodology courses
  - Empirical research dissertation

- Problem-based learning (PBL)
  - Use psychological science to solve real-world problems
Overview

PBL – NOT memorization, BUT understanding
How can psychology help us think about real-world problems?
Program structure

Overview

- 8 core courses + an empirical research dissertation

1. Introduction to research methods in psychology
2. Research and quantitative methods in psychology
3. Biological psychology
4. Cognitive psychology
5. Developmental psychology
6. Personality psychology
7. Social psychology
8. Abnormal psychology
Program structure

Core courses

- For EACH course:
  - 6 credits
  - One semester (~ 12 weeks)
  - Classes offered in weekday afternoons (mostly from 3:30pm)
  - 2-4 hours per week
  - Mostly problem-based learning (PBL)
Program structure

Dissertation

- 12 credits
- From Sept to end of June (~10 months)
Program structure
Dates of semesters

- Two semesters in each academic year:
  - Semester 1: Sept – Dec (~12 weeks)
  - Semester 2: Jan – May (~12 weeks)
Study mode: full-time vs. part-time

Full-time study

- Full-time mode
  - Complete within ONE year
  - Semester 1: 4 courses (i.e., 4 afternoons per week)
  - Semester 2: 4 courses (i.e., 4 afternoons per week)
  - Dissertation throughout the year
    - Submission deadline: June 30
  - Tuition fee: HK$135,000
Study mode: full-time vs. part-time

Part-time study

- Part-time mode
  - Complete within TWO year
  - Year 1: 5 courses (i.e., 2 to 3 in each semester)
  - Year 2: 3 courses
  - Dissertation throughout Year 2
    - Submission deadline: June 30
  - Tuition fee: HK$70,000 per year
Is this for you?

- To become eligible to apply for:
  - MSocSc in Clinical Psychology
  - MSocSc in Educational Psychology
  - MPhil in Psychology
  - 4-year PhD in Psychology
  - Graduate membership of Hong Kong Psychological Society
Is this for you?
Is this for you?
Is this for you?

6 Steps to Completing Your Dissertation

1. DRUDGERY
2. PROCRASTINATION
3. PANIC
4. DESPAIR
5. DRUDGERY
6. PRINTING
Application

- Online application only

http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme/master-social-sciences-field-psychology

- Upload supporting documents
  - AFTER the initial application submission
Dear Mr./Miss XXX,

Subject: Acknowledgement of the Receipt of Application and Application Fee
Programme: Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology [MSocSc(Psy)] (Full-time)
Reference Number: MScCon1101XXXXXX (10 digits number)
Application Number: 1101XXXXXX (10 digits number)

Thank you for submitting an application for admission to a postgraduate degree programme at HKU. Please note the reference number above and quote it in all future correspondence. To help us process your application efficiently, please ensure that this reference number is marked on each page of the supporting documents submitted. For details regarding the submission of supporting documents, please refer to: https://sweb.hku.hk/tola/servlet/ApplicantDownloadForm/getForm?pREF_CODE=R324&pDOCUMENT_TYPE=SUPPORTDOCUMENT

If there are changes in any of the information after submission, please inform the respective Faculty by e-mail.

**Survey**
We would now like to invite you to participate in a five-minute survey. Your feedback, which is completely anonymous, will be extremely valuable in helping us to plan our offerings. Please click here to enter the survey.

Regards,

Admissions and Academic Liaison Section
Registry
The University of Hong Kong
Please click here to view / print the Instructions for Supporting Documents Submission.

To facilitate processing your application, you may upload your supporting documents.

The requirements of the documents are:
1. Format: JPG
2. Maximum file size: 3MB
3. Maximum number of files: 20 (Please upload each page of your documents separately.)
4. Recommended image dimensions (width x height): at least 1000 pixels x 1400 pixels
5. For scanned documents, suggested scanning resolution: 200 dpi

Please ensure your uploaded documents are clear.

It may take several minutes to upload your file.

After finished uploading your documents, you may click here to close this window.

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Application

- Entry requirements
  - A Bachelor’s degree NOT majoring in psychology
  - With NO prior completion of similar conversion program in psychology
  - Preferably more than one year of work experience
  - English language requirement as detailed here:
    http://www.psychology.hku.hk/?page_id=1686
Important dates

- **January 10, 2020 (Friday, 12:00 noon)**: Closing date for online application

- **Mid February, 2020**: Notify shortlisted candidates for qualifying exam, and then interview

- **Mid March, 2020**: Qualifying exam
  - Format of qualifying exam: ~45 min, MCQs on basic concepts of psychology
Application

Important dates

- Late March, 2020: Informal notification to successful candidates

- September 1, 2020 (Tuesday): First day of teaching
Career path
What do our graduates do?

- Further studies
- Psychology-related jobs
  - E.g., research assistants, assistants to psychologists, etc.
- Back to original professions
Q&A

- Enquiries
  - http://www.psychology.hku.hk
  - mpsyc@hku.hk
  - Dr. Sing-Hang Cheung (Email: singhang@hku.hk)