



Department of Psychology

The University of Hong Kong

香港大學心理學系

# Master of Social Sciences in Psychology Information Seminar

Department of Psychology  
The University of Hong Kong  
November 2024

# Who we are


- Professor Frances Jin
  - Program Director
  - Chief Examiner
- Dr. Henry NG
- Ms. Janice WANG

# Agenda

- Program overview
- Study mode
- Is this for you?
- Application
- Career path
- Q & A

# Program overview


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 **Department of Psychology**  
The University of Hong Kong  
香港大學心理學系

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Home » Programmes

## Programmes



- › Undergraduate Programmes
- › **Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology**
- › Master of Social Sciences in the field of Clinical Psychology
- › Master of Social Sciences in the field of Educational Psychology
- › Doctor of Psychology in the field of Clinical Psychology
- › Doctor of Psychology in the field of Educational Psychology
- › Research Degrees – MPhil & PhD
- › Research Degree – PhD with a specialization in Clinical Psychology
- › Research Degree – PhD with a specialization in Educational Psychology
- 💡 Useful Information to Current Students

# Program overview – brief history

- Building on success
  - Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology (PCPsy, est. 1978)
    - For academically excellent students who are deeply interested in psychology
- Master of Social Sciences in Psychology (MSocSc (Psy))
  - Inception: 2015 (in replacement of the previous PCPsy program)
  - With enhanced teaching and learning experience

# Program overview – brief history

- Who is this program designed for?
  - For non-psychology students with a Bachelor's degree
  - Also, for students with a background of psychology who are interested in gaining more knowledge or research competence
- Objectives:
  - To acquire a solid foundation in psychology
  - To gain research competence
  - To prepare for career development in psychology and related fields
    - This includes to bring students to a level where they should be eligible to apply for graduate membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPS), as well as should be eligible to apply for MSocSc in Clinical Psychology and in Educational Psychology amongst other postgraduate degree programs

# Program overview – objectives

- Graduate membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPS)
  - For career development in psychology:  
One of the entrance requirements for the HKU MSocSc(Clinical Psychology) and MSocSc(Educational Psychology) programmes
- Requirements: a postgraduate qualification in psychology covering at least Research Methods in Psychology and 4 out of the 6 following fundamental areas:
  - (i) Biological / Physiological Psychology,
  - (ii) Developmental /Child Psychology,
  - (iii) Cognitive Psychology /Perception /Learning /Memory,
  - (iv) Personality /Individual Differences,
  - (v) Social Psychology, and
  - (vi) History of Psychology/Contemporary Issues in Psychology.

**Note:** please refer to the latest update and full requirements in the HKPS website:  
[https://www.hkps.org.hk/en/membership/membership\\_guide/](https://www.hkps.org.hk/en/membership/membership_guide/)

# Program overview – key features

- An emphasis on research training
  - Two research methodology courses
  - An empirical research dissertation or a capstone research project
- Covers main subfields in psychology
  - Courses cover major subfields
  - From basic science to applied science

## ***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)  
PSYC7319. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

## ***Capstone Experience Courses***

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



# Program overview – program structure

- Dissertation option\*:
  - 8 Core courses + 1 empirical research dissertation
- Non-dissertation option:
  - 8 courses + 1 capstone project + 1 elective course
- You can find course outline from our website.

## 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)  
PSYC7319. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

## Capstone Experience Courses

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

**Note** : an empirical research study is often but not necessarily required for being eligible to apply for further study programs. Thus, if one plans to pursue further studies but has not fulfilled this requirement from one's previous academic programs, one should check the relevant program requirements carefully and the dissertation-option may be considered.

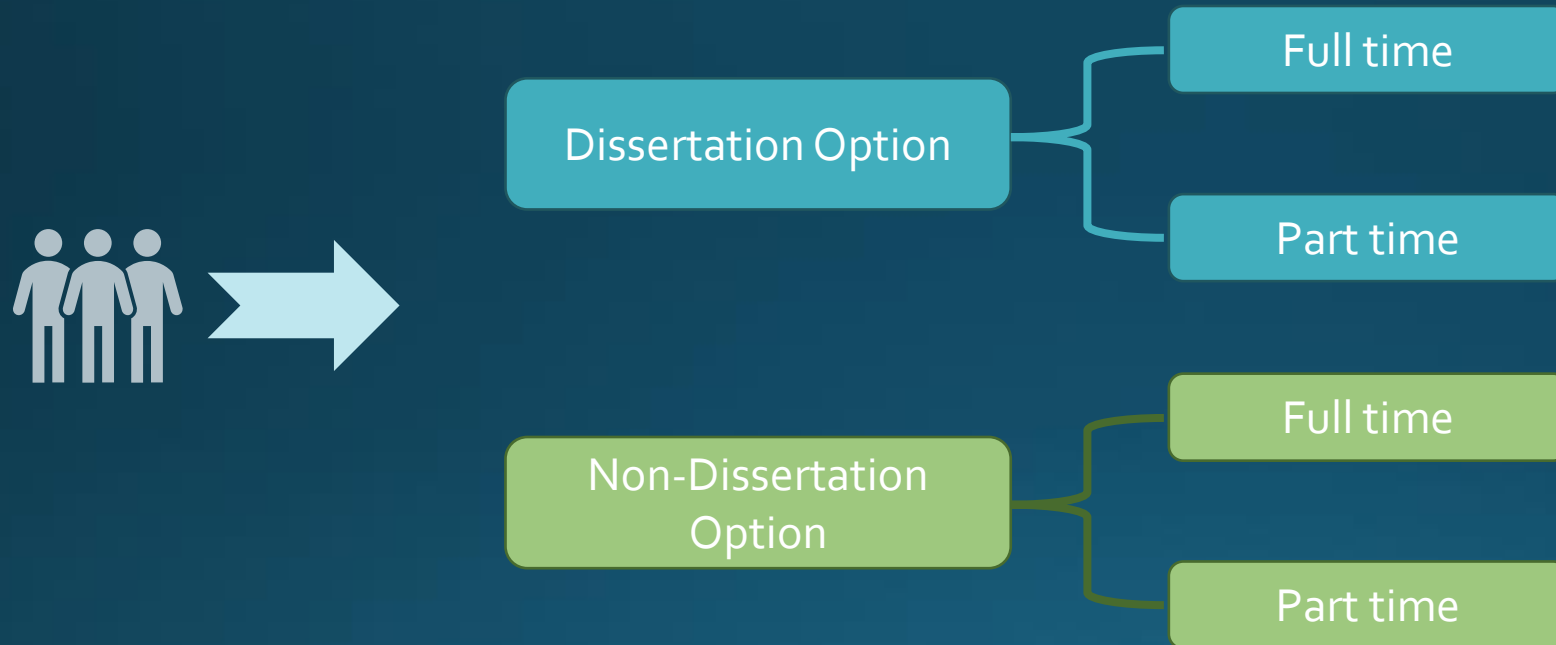
# Program overview – program structure

- For each of the 8 core courses:
  - 6 credits
  - One semester (~12 weeks)
  - 3 hours per week per course (weekday afternoons)
- For the dissertation:
  - 12 credits
  - From November to the end of June (~8 months)
- For the capstone project:
  - 6 credits
  - Enrolled in the second semester

# Program overview – Dates of semesters

- Two semesters in each academic year:
  - Semester 1: September to December
  - Semester 2: January to May

# Study mode – overview



# Study mode – full-time vs. part-time

- Dissertation option – full-time mode
  - Complete within ONE academic year
    - Semester 1: 4 courses (spend 4 afternoons each week)
    - Semester 2: 4 courses (spend 4 afternoons each week)
    - Dissertation throughout the year (November to June) – deadline for dissertation submission is June the 30<sup>th</sup>

# Study mode – full-time vs. part-time

- Dissertation option – part-time mode
  - Complete within TWO academic years
    - Year 1: 5 courses (2 – 3 courses in each semester)
    - Year 2: 3 courses
    - Dissertation throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup> year (November to June) – deadline for dissertation submission is June the 30<sup>th</sup> of year 2

# Study mode – full-time vs. part-time

- Non-dissertation option – full-time mode
  - Complete within ONE academic year
    - Semester 1: 5 courses (spend 5 afternoons each week)
    - Semester 2: 4 courses (spend 4 afternoons each week)
    - Capstone project in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester

# Study mode – full-time vs. part-time

- Non-dissertation option – part-time mode
  - Complete within TWO academic years
    - Year 1: 5 courses (2 – 3 courses in each semester)
    - Year 2: 4 courses
    - Capstone project in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year



# Study mode – full-time vs. part-time

- Tuition Fees (2025-26)
  - Full-time: HK\$182,400
  - Part-time: HK\$91,200 per academic year
  - **The tuition fees for 2025-26 is subject to University's approval**

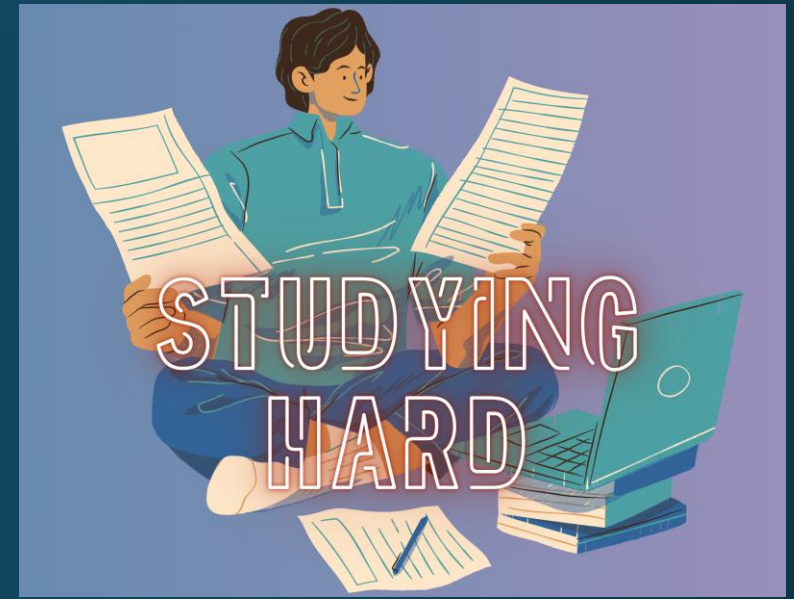
# Is this for you?

- Upon successful completion of the compulsory courses\*, should be eligible to apply for:
  - MSocSc in Clinical Psychology
  - MSocSc in Educational Psychology
  - MPhil in Psychology
  - 4-year PhD in Psychology
  - Graduate membership of HKPS

**Note** : One should check carefully the requirements of the programs of interest and the final eligibility for applying for these programs relies upon the fulfillment of their specific requirements.

# Is this for you?

- Be prepared to STUDY HARD!!
- Instead of passively receiving knowledge, be prepared to actively seek for knowledge and solutions!
- Be ready for completing a solid research project!



# OUR STUDY JOURNEY



Dr. Henry Ng

# Mock Lecture

# Application

- Please read carefully the information on the website

<https://psychology.hku.hk/admission-master-of-social-sciences-in-the-field-of-psychology/>

- The deadline is **2 December 2024 (HKT 12:00 noon)**
- Applications must be made ONLINE only.
- Upload your supporting documents

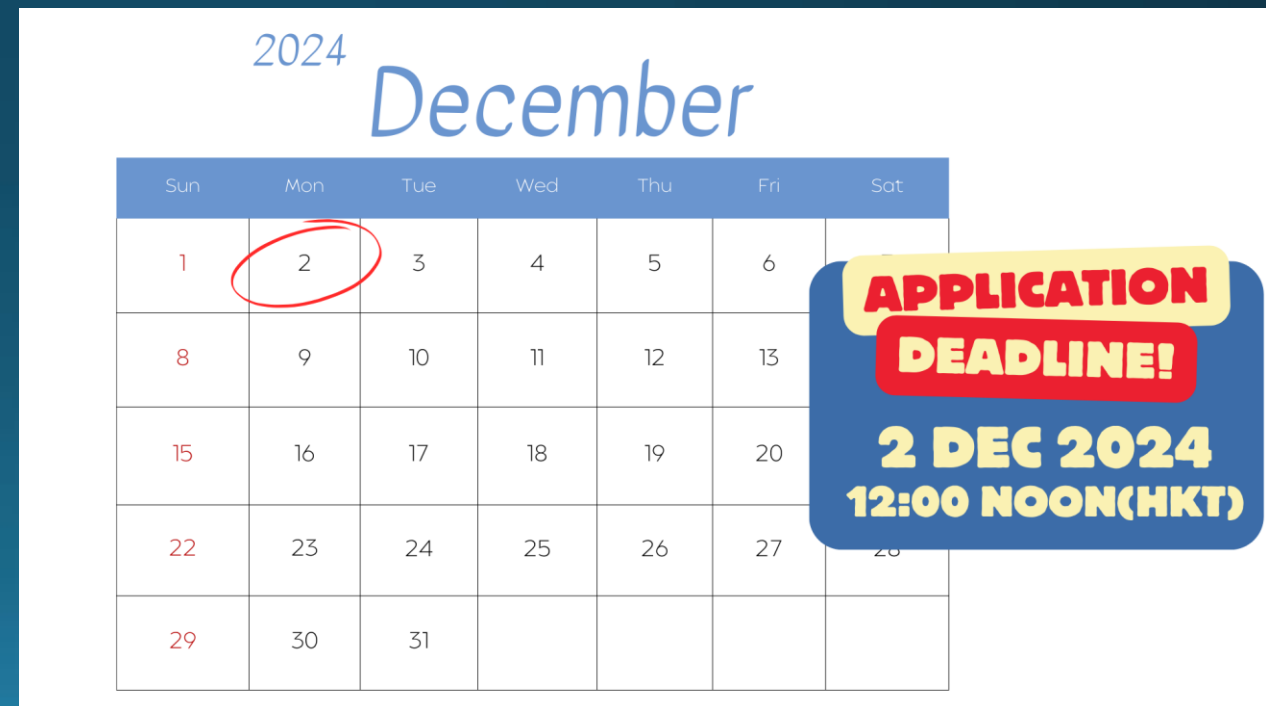
[https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/sites/default/files/R324\\_SUPPORTDOCUMENT\\_1.pdf](https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/sites/default/files/R324_SUPPORTDOCUMENT_1.pdf)



# Application DEADLINE

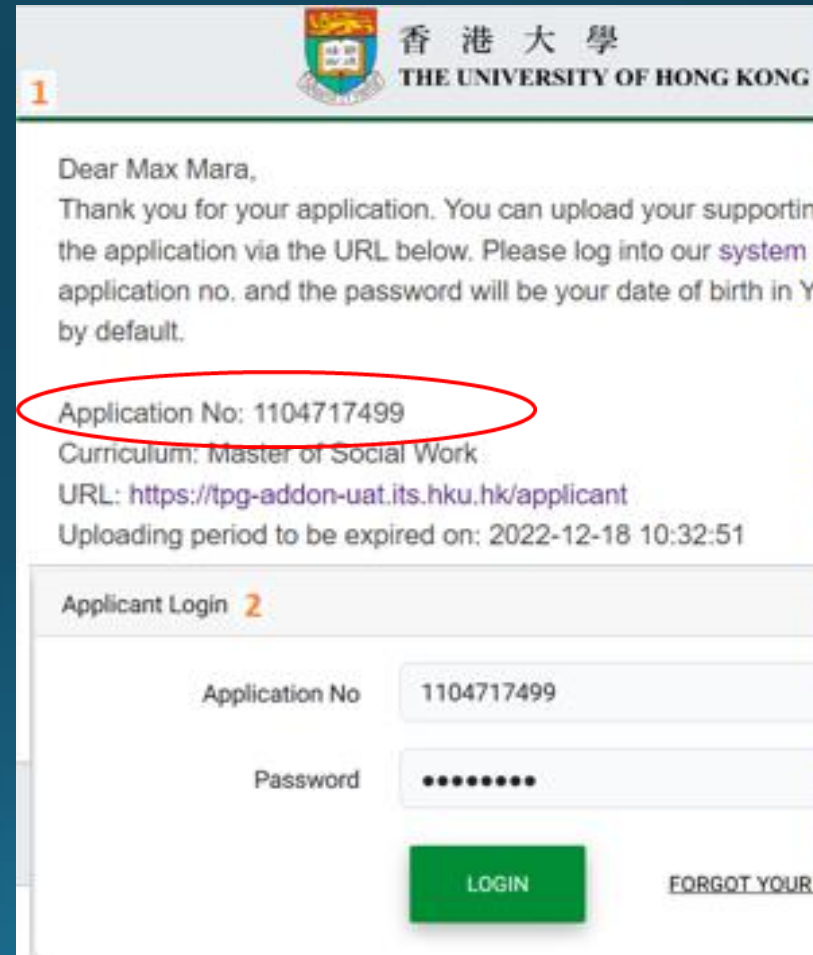
- Applications must be made ONLINE only.
- The deadline is

**2 December 2024 (Monday)**  
**(HKT 12:00 noon)**



# Application

- You will receive an email acknowledgement upon submission of online application
- You will need the application number when you upload your supporting documents (next slide)



The screenshot shows an email from The University of Hong Kong. The header includes the university's crest and name in Chinese and English. The email body contains a welcome message to Max Mara, instructions on how to log into the system, and the application number 1104717499, which is circled in red. Below the email text is a login form with fields for Application No and Password, a green LOGIN button, and a FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD link.

1

香港大學  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Dear Max Mara,  
Thank you for your application. You can upload your supporting documents via the application via the URL below. Please log into our system (application no. and the password will be your date of birth in YYYYMM format) by default.

Application No: 1104717499  
Curriculum: Master of Social Work  
URL: <https://tpg-addon-uat.its.hku.hk/applicant>  
Uploading period to be expired on: 2022-12-18 10:32:51

Applicant Login 2

Application No 1104717499

Password .....

LOGIN FORGOT YOUR



# Application


- You will receive an email notification from the application system within 48 hours to upload the supporting document.

## Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology (MSocSc(Psy))

Application No: XXX Preview XXX

[USER GUIDE](#)

### Upload Supporting Documents

 PDF only

<h4>Identity Documents</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>HKID/ Mainland ID Card/ Passport 0 / 3</p>	<h4>Transcripts</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>Maximum 5 bachelor degree/ master degree/ PhD degree etc 0 / 5</p>
<h4>Institution Grading System</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>transcript legends, keys or grading scales 0 / 5</p>	<h4>Graduation Certificates</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>Graduation Certificates 0 / 5</p>
<h4>Bachelor Certificate (for mainland China applicant only)</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>For applicants who graduated from Universities in Mainland China 0 / 5</p>	<h4>Online Verifications Reports, Overseas Credentials Evaluation Report, etc.</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>For applicants who graduated from universities in Mainland China, or applicants from Mainland China whose qualifications were awarded by overseas universities 0 / 1</p>
<h4>English Language Requirements</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>Graduated from university which are not using English as medium of instruction 0 / 1</p>	<h4>Personal Statement</h4> <div>Click or Drag and drop to upload file</div> <p>0 / 1</p>
<h4>CV</h4> <div></div>	<h4>Name Changing Proof (optional)</h4> <div></div>

# Application

- Entry requirements <https://psychology.hku.hk/admission-master-of-social-sciences-in-the-field-of-psychology/>
- A bachelor's degree NOT majoring in psychology
- ~~• With No prior completion of similar conversion program in psychology~~
- Bachelor's degree of HKU or equivalent
- Preferably have more than one year work experience
- English language requirement as detailed on the

## 2) The University's English language requirements are as follows:

Applicants with qualifications from a university or comparable institution OUTSIDE Hong Kong where the language of teaching or examination is NOT English are required to obtain:

(a) a score of 550 or above (paper-based test) or 80 or above (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL); or

(b) a minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5 in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS); or

(c) grade C or above in either the Overseas General Certificate of Education, the International General Certificate of Secondary Education, or the Cambridge Test of Proficiency in English Language.

TOEFL applicants should request the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to send an official score report to the University (TOEFL code 9671) direct. The scores are valid for 2 years.

# Application

After the submission of documents

- Mid-December 2024: notify shortlisted candidates for a qualifying exam
- 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025:
  - Qualifying exam** (45 to 60 minutes)
    - to attend **IN PERSON** in HKU campus
    - MCQs and short-answer questions (in English) on basic concepts of psychology
    - reference for online psychology textbook [https://saylordotorg.github.io/text\\_introduction-to-psychology/](https://saylordotorg.github.io/text_introduction-to-psychology/)
    - individual interview will only be required on need basis
- Early February 2025: Informal notification to successful candidates
- September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 (Monday): First day of teaching

# Career path

- Further studies
- Psychology-related jobs
- Return to your previous profession

# Q & A

Got questions?

- For frequently asked questions: <https://psychology.hku.hk/admission-master-of-social-sciences-in-the-field-of-psychology/>
- **Application procedure and admission-related enquiries:**
- Ms. Janice WANG (Tel: (852) 3917 7122; Email: [mpsyc@hku.hk](mailto:mpsyc@hku.hk))
- **Programme and professional-related enquires:**
- [Prof. Frances JIN](#), Director, Chief Examiner, Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology programme (Email: [frances.jin@hku.hk](mailto:frances.jin@hku.hk) )