

The University of Hong Kong  
Faculty of Education

Master of Education programme (MEd)  
Curriculum and Pedagogy

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The specialism aims to develop an advanced understanding (appropriate to the Master's level) and leadership in the field of curriculum studies. Specifically, students will follow specialist courses that explore ideas and theories in the areas of curriculum concepts and design, learning, assessment and pedagogy, curriculum policy and practice, curriculum implementation and evaluation.

Who would benefit from this specialism?

Curriculum planners and leaders, government and school curriculum development officers, teachers, and other professionals who are interested in the area of curriculum and pedagogy.

Mode of study:

The specialism is available in 1-year full-time and 2-year part-time modes of study.

Outline of the four Specialist Courses:

Course 1: Comparative Perspectives on Curriculum (6 credits)

This course offers a comparative study of different approaches to curriculum around the world. It examines the question of how globalisation is impacting curriculum worldwide via curriculum reforms and assessment regimes versus localisation in different regional/country/system contexts. Critical historical and comparative perspectives on curriculum are developed through understanding the interdisciplinary perspectives shaping curriculum policy decisions in different systems. The question of globalisation will also be considered with reference to the students' experiences and background including Hong Kong.

Course 2: Curriculum Conceptions and Design (6 credits)

This course aims to familiarize students with the field of curriculum studies and to identify some of its main theoretical perspectives and enduring issues. It introduces students to the main conceptions of curriculum and to the various ways these conceptions are categorised. It examines critically the basic tenets of these conceptions and explores their implications for curriculum design and analysis at systemic and school levels.

Course 3: Curriculum Implementation: Issues and Challenges (6 credits)

This course aims at developing the understanding of education professionals in the area of curriculum implementation and evaluation through a critical examination of the processes and stages of curriculum implementation as well as evaluation models. It specifically provides a critical analysis of the factors influencing curriculum implementation, the application of evaluation, the issues and challenges involved from multiple perspectives such as organisational, cultural, technological, ethical perspectives by connecting theory and practice.

#### Course 4: Linking Curriculum to Learning and Pedagogy (6 credits)

The course shows how more powerful ideas, more powerful educational practices and more powerful research methods can be developed by means of underlining the mutual dependence between learning, and teaching, theory and practice, collective and individual, ideas and acts. It then critically reviews the role of learning, assessment and pedagogy and evaluates trends that are occurring in these areas globally and in Hong Kong.

In addition to four specialist courses, students will also have to complete:

- The compulsory core course Educational Issues and Research (6 credits);
- Three elective courses (6 credits each); and
- An option of a professional portfolio (12 credits) or a research project (12 credits).