Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Programs in Environmental Science, Policy and Management

Curriculum for Master of Philosophy (MPhil) Program in Environmental Science, Policy and Management

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) program aims to train students to conduct independent interdisciplinary research in Environmental Science, Policy and Management.

Specific program requirements are:

a) Taking at least 9 credits of coursework including:
   i) 6 credits from the Interdisciplinary Core Course List; and
   ii) 3 credits from the Elective Course List or other postgraduate course(s) approved by the supervisor and the PG Coordinator.

b) Completion of and passing IDPO 6770 Professional Development for Interdisciplinary Programs (1 credit) within the first two years of study for full-time students, or four years for part-time students. Part-time students may be exempted from a maximum of 50% of mini-workshops of IDPO 6770, subject to prior approval of the Division Head and PG Coordinator. The 1 credit earned from IDPO 6770 cannot be counted toward the credit requirements. The hours earned from research seminars of this course cannot be used to fulfill the seminar requirement of the program;

c) Full-time RPg students are required to take an English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Speaking Test administered by the Center for Language Education before the start of their first term of study. Students whose ELPA Speaking Test score is below Level 4, or who failed to take the test in their first term of study, are required to take LANG 5000 Foundation in Listening & Speaking for Postgraduate Students until they pass the course by attaining at least Level 4 in the ELPA Speaking Test before graduation;

d) Completion of and passing LANG 5081 Research Writing Skills. The 3 credits earned from LANG 5081 cannot be counted toward the credit requirements. Students can be exempted from taking LANG 5081 with the approval of the supervisor and the PG Coordinator;

e) Taking ENVR 6010 Postgraduate Seminar whenever it is offered;

f) Registration in ENVR 6990 MPhil Thesis Research; and

g) Presentation and oral defense of the MPhil thesis.

Interdisciplinary Core Course List:

- ENVR 5290 Climate Change: Science, Policy and Management
- ENVR 6060 Sustainability Economics; or
  SOSC 5620 Sustainable Development

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Elective Course List:

- ENVR 5210 Environmental Microbiology
- ENVR 5250 Environmental Economics and Management
- ENVR 5260 Environmental Policy and Management
- ENVR 5410 Atmospheric Chemistry
- ENVR 6040 Special Topics in Environment
- ENVR 6050 Introduction to Oceanography
- EVSM 5270 Environmental Law
- EVSM 5280 Introduction to Atmospheric Aerosols
- EVSM 6070 Environmental Impact Assessment
- MATH 5360 Weather, Climate and Pollution
- RMBI 4000B Environmental Risk Management

Curriculum for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program in Environmental Science, Policy and Management

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program aims to train students in original research in Environmental Science, Policy and Management, and to cultivate independent, interdisciplinary and innovative thinking that is essential for a successful research career in environmental science, policy and management research and formulation.

Specific program requirements are:

a) Taking at least 12 credits of coursework including:
   i) 6 credits from the Interdisciplinary Core Course List; and
   ii) 6 credits from the Elective Course List or other postgraduate course(s) approved by the supervisor and the PG Coordinator.

   Subject to approval from the PG Coordinator, students who have taken HKUST MPhil program in Environmental Science, Policy and Management will be granted credit transfer of up to a maximum of 9 credits. Students admitted to the program with a relevant master's degree may be granted credit transfer on a case-by-case basis. In such case, the maximum number of credit transferrable is 6.

b) Completion of and passing IDPO 6770 Professional Development for Interdisciplinary Programs (1 credit) and ENVR 6770 Professional Development in Environmental Science, Policy and Management (1 credit) within the first two years of study for full-time students, or four years for part-time students. Part-time students may be exempted from a maximum of 50% of mini-workshops of IDPO 6770 and ENVR 6770, subject to prior approval of the Division Head and PG Coordinator. The credits earned from IDPO 6770 and ENVR 6770 cannot be counted toward the credit requirements. The hours earned from research seminars of this course cannot be used to fulfill the seminar requirement of the program. HKUST MPhil graduates in Environmental Science, Policy and Management who have taken and passed IDPO 6770 before may be exempted from taking the same course, subject to prior approval from the Division Head and PG Coordinator;

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c) Full-time RPg students are required to take an English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Speaking Test administered by the Center for Language Education before the start of their first term of study. Students whose ELPA Speaking Test score is below Level 4, or who failed to take the test in their first term of study, are required to take LANG 5000 Foundation in Listening & Speaking for Postgraduate Students until they pass the course by attaining at least Level 4 in the ELPA Speaking Test before graduation;

d) Completion of and passing LANG 5080 English Seminar and Presentation Skills, and LANG 5081 Research Writing Skills. The 6 credits earned from LANG 5080 and LANG 5081 cannot be counted toward the credit requirements. Students can be exempted from taking LANG 5080 and/or LANG 5081 with the approval of the supervisor and the PG Coordinator;

e) Taking ENVR 6010 Postgraduate Seminar whenever it is offered;

f) Submission of a thesis proposal to the Qualifying Examination Committee who will examine the student's general background knowledge and knowledge related to the topic of the research. Students must pass the qualifying examination no later than the forth regular term of study for full-time students, or the sixth regular term of study for part-time students;

g) Registration in ENVR 7990 Doctoral Thesis Research; and

h) Presentation and oral defense of the PhD thesis.

Interdisciplinary Core Course List:

- ENVR 5290 Climate Change: Science, Policy and Management
- ENVR 6060 Sustainability Economics; or
  SOSC 5620 Sustainable Development

Elective Course List:

- ENVR 5210 Environmental Microbiology
- ENVR 5250 Environmental Economics and Management
- ENVR 5260 Environmental Policy and Management
- ENVR 5410 Atmospheric Chemistry
- ENVR 6040 Special Topics in Environment
- ENVR 6050 Introduction to Oceanography
- EVSM 5270 Environmental Law
- EVSM 5280 Introduction to Atmospheric Aerosols
- EVSM 6070 Environmental Impact Assessment
- MATH 5360 Weather, Climate and Pollution
- RMBI 4000B Environmental Risk Management