



# Seminar on General Education/ Common Core and Credit Transfer – View from UGC Institution

Federation for Self-Financing Tertiary Education

## Common Core and GE @ CUHK

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- I. CUHK: Facts and Figures
- II. Ug Curriculum Structure & Core Requirements
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# CUHK: Facts and Figures

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# Matrix Structure



- Each Ug student and faculty member
  - affiliated to one college and one faculty
- Eight faculties
  - Arts, Business, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science, Social Science
  - Academic departments
  - Formal learning
- Nine colleges
  - Chung Chi; New Asia; Shaw; United; Morningside; S.H. Ho; C.W. Chu; Wu Yee Sun; Lee Woo Sing
  - Non-formal learning
  - Formal learning: College General Education

# Ug Programmes



- ~ 16,000 Ug students
- ~ 70 Ug programmes
- Programme-based or broad-based admission
- Most programmes admit students to senior year (SY)
- A few programmes tailor-made for SY entrants
  - Natural Sciences
- Examples of programmes with larger SY intakes
  - Global Studies, Natural Sciences, Nursing, Gender Studies, ...

# Credit Unit System



- Ug requirement: 123 units
- 1 unit
  - 1 contact hour per week
  - 0.5 to 2 off-class learning hours per week
  - 1.5 to 3 learning hours per week
  - over a term of some 13-14 weeks: 21-42 hrs
- Maximum load: 18 units
  - 27 to 54 hours per week



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# Ug Curriculum Structure & Core Requirements

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# CUHK Ug Graduate Attributes



- Knowledge (K)
  - Broad range of intellectual disciplines
  - General knowledge
  - Depth of knowledge within a specialty
  - ...
- Professional and generic skills (S)
  - Bilingual proficiency
  - IT
  - Life-long learning and professional development
  - ...
- Attitude and values (V)
  - Compassion, honesty and integrity
  - Sense of purpose, responsibility and commitment in life
  - ...



# Ug Curriculum Structure



Component		Unit Range
Major	Faculty Package	51 – 72 *
	Major Required	
	Major Elective	
Minor (optional)		18 – 30
Languages	Chinese	6
	English	9
General Education		21
Information Technology		1
Physical Education		2
Free Electives		Remaining Units (if any)
Total		At least 123

\* For some professional programmes and programmes of more than 4 years' normative period of study, the maximum exceeds 72.

39-unit Core Requirement

# Requirements for SY Entrants



Core Requirement	FYFD (4-year curriculum)	AD/HD (senior-year)
Chinese	6 units	0 unit
English	9 units Year 1: 4 units (EAP) Year 2: 3 units (ESP) Year 3: 2 units (EPP)	HD: 5 units AD: 2 units
General Education	21 units	8-9 units
Information Technology	1 unit	0 unit
Physical Education	2 units	1 unit
<b>Total</b>	<b>39 units</b>	<b>HD: 14-15 units AD: 11-12 units</b>

<b>Major Requirement</b>	<b>51-72 units</b>	<b>~54 units</b>
<b>Total Requirement</b>	<b>At least 123 units</b>	<b>At least 69 units</b>



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# General Education @ CUHK

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# Goals of GE



- Furnish students with a broad intellectual perspective;
- Engage students in active reflections, to make connections between intellectual pursuits and life;
- Promote understanding of Chinese cultural heritage and of other cultural traditions;
- Develop attitudes and skills;
- Extend curiosity, read widely, independent learners, team players

# GE Requirements (4-Year Curriculum)



- College GE (CGE)
  - 6 units
  - Offered by colleges
- GE Foundation Programme (GEF)
  - 6 units
  - 2 common courses
  - Offered by Office of University GE
- University GE (UGE)
  - 9 units
  - Elective courses in four areas
  - Courses offered by departments

# College GE (CGE)



- 6 units
- Different colleges offer different courses
  - Transition to University (Year 1)
  - Senior year project (Year 4)
  - Service learning

# GE Foundation Programme (GEF)



- 6 units
- 2 common courses
  - In Dialogue with Nature
  - In Dialogue with Humanity
- Usually completed by Term 1 Year 2
- Offered by Office of University GE
- Course design
  - Read classics
  - Participate in small-group discussion
- Launched in 2012
  - Initial success
    - Positive feedback from students : challenging in a positive manner

# University GE Requirement (UGE)



- 9 units
- Elective from the four areas
  - A: Chinese Cultural Heritage
  - B: Nature, Science and Technology
  - C: Culture and Society
  - D: Self and Humanity
- ~250 courses offered by departments



# GE Requirements for SY Students



GE Requirement	FYFD (4-year curriculum)	AD/HD (senior-year)
College GE	6 units	2-3 units
GE Foundation	6 units	3 units
University GE	9 units	3 unit (Area A)
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 units</b>	<b>8-9 units</b>

# Quality Assurance of GE Courses



- Senate Committee on General Education
  - Dean of College GE
  - Faculty Associate Deans
- College GE
  - College Assembly of Fellows
- University GE
  - Department and Faculty Boards
- Course review every three years
- Programme review every several years
- Feedback
  - Course and teaching evaluation
  - Student survey conducted by CLEAR (teaching development centre)

# Exemplary GE Programme Award



- Exemplary International General Education Program Improvement
  - 2015 Award
  - The Association for General and Liberal Studies
  - 1<sup>st</sup> programme outside US
  - Evaluation criteria
    - Development
    - Implementation
    - Results
    - Continuous improvement
  - GE website  
<http://www5.cuhk.edu.hk/oge/index.php/en/>



# Q & A