

Curriculum Information Record for a Research Degree Programme**Department of Public and International Affairs****Effective from Semester A 2026/27****For Students Admitted with Catalogue Term****Semester A 2026/27 and thereafter**

This form is for completion by the College/School for research degree programme. The information provided on this form is the official record of the Programme. It will be used for City University's database, various City University publications (including websites) and documentation for students and others as required.

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes attached to this form on the various items of information required.

Part I

Programme Title (in English) : Doctor of Philosophy

(in Chinese) : 哲學博士

Award Title (in English) : Doctor of Philosophy

(in Chinese) : 哲學博士

Programme Aims

This programme aims to provide advanced training for PhD students in the area of politics, policy and administration. It aims to help students pursue academic achievements in social research and develop independent and critical thinking capability, mastery of qualitative and quantitative methodologies, and writing skills necessary for the successful publication of research findings. It will offer students opportunities to acquire scholarly competence in conducting research on public management, policy studies, political studies, comparative politics, and philosophy and theory.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs)

(state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the programme according to a given standard of performance)

Upon successful completion of this Programme, students should be able to:

1. Discover new knowledge by identifying and critically evaluating the relevant literature in the topic areas selected
2. Analyze real-world issues with theoretical and empirical research
3. Develop independent scholarly competencies in research design, methodological, and analytical techniques and sophisticated theorizing
4. Present seminar and conference papers to gather feedback for thesis writing and/or submissions to journals/edited collections

Part II Programme of Study

1. Research Area(s) in which research students will be admitted to:

Policy and Administration

2. Programme Core Courses: (9 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
PIA8618	Qualitative Methods	R8	3	
PIA8619	Independent Study	R8	6	

3. Research Methodology and Ethics Course(s): (3 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
PIA8617	Research Design, Methodology, and Ethics	R8	3	

4. Programme Electives (6 credits):

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
(i) With the agreement of the supervisor, select one of the courses below (3 credits):				
PIA8621	Quantitative Methods	R8	3	
PIA6204	Statistical Analysis for Public Policy and Management	P6	3	Current course offered in MAPPM
(ii) Select one MA-level course (3 credits) offered in MA Housing and Urban Management (MAHUM), MA International Studies (MAIS), MA Public Policy and Management (MAPPM) or MSocSc Sustainability and Development Studies (MSSSDS) programmes				

5. Other Requirements:

Please provide a general description *OR* fill in additional rows in the following table, as appropriate.

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
SG8001	Teaching Students: First Steps	R8	1	
--	Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) programme	n/a	n/a	An online training course on research integrity. Compulsory for RPg students who admitted in 2018/19 and thereafter. To be completed in the first year of study. Details are available in SGS website.

6. Qualifying Examination (for PhD only):

The exam will focus on three components for assessment in each year: Qualitative Methods, Quantitative Methods, and Ethics. These will correspond to the foundational pillars of methodological practice in the fields covered by PIA PhD students. Additional areas for review may be added depending on topical focus of the students in a given cohort. Qualifying/Annual Report Submission:

Students must submit qualifying report within the specific qualifying period. After completing Qualifying period, students must submit annual progress report on an annual basis until they have submitted the final version of their thesis for oral examination and have completed any other programme requirements.

In addition, during year 2 of their study, they are required to deliver a presentation regarding their thesis plan and answer questions from their panel members and other attendees.

7. Thesis:

The PhD thesis should demonstrate the student's ability to design a sophisticated research agenda, collect data from a variety of sources (including fieldwork where appropriate), deploy complex methodologies in a systematic way, build a coherent argument that addresses relevant literature and debates, and indicate prospects for making serious theoretical contributions. The

PhD thesis should be of such a standard that, after necessary revisions, it can be realistically expected to get published as a monograph or journal articles.

8. Additional Notes:

N.A.

Prepared / Last Updated by

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Curriculum Information Record for a Research Degree Programme

Department of Public and International Affairs

Effective from Semester A 2026/27

For Students Admitted with Catalogue Term

Semester A 2026/27 and thereafter

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Part I

Programme Title (in English) : Master of Philosophy

(in Chinese) : 哲學碩士

Award Title (in English) : Master of Philosophy

(in Chinese) : 哲學碩士

Programme Aims

This programme aims to provide advanced training for MPhil students in the area of politics, policy, and administration. It aims to help students pursue academic achievements in social research and develop independent and critical thinking capability, mastery of qualitative and quantitative methodologies, and writing skills necessary for the successful publication of research findings. It will offer students opportunities to acquire scholarly competence in conducting research on public management, policy studies, political studies, comparative politics and philosophy and theory.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs)

(state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the programme according to a given standard of performance)

Upon successful completion of this Programme, students should be able to:

1. Discover new knowledge by identifying and critically evaluating the relevant literature in the topic areas selected
2. Analyze real-world issues with theoretical and empirical research
3. Develop independent scholarly competencies in research design, methodological, and analytical techniques and sophisticated theorizing
4. Generate competitive grant proposals, seminar and conference papers, journal submissions and monographs

Part II Programme of Study

1. Research Area(s) in which research students will be admitted to:

Policy and Administration

2. Programme Core Courses: (3 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
PIA8618	Qualitative Methods	R8	3	The current core course offered in PhD

3. Research Methodology and Ethics Course(s): (3credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
PIA8617	Research Design, Methodology, and Ethics	R8	3	

4. Programme Elective (3 credit)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
With the agreement of the supervisor, select one of the courses below (3 credits):				
PIA8621	Quantitative Methods	R8	3	An elective course offered in PhD
PIA6204	Statistical Analysis for Public Policy and Management	P6	3	• An elective course offered in PhD • Current course offered in MAPPM

5. Other Requirements:

Please provide a general description *OR* fill in additional rows in the following table, as appropriate.

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
SG8001	Teaching Students: First Steps	R8	1	
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6. Qualifying Examination (for PhD only):

N.A.

7. Qualifying/Annual Report Submission:

Students must submit a qualifying report within the specified qualifying period. After the qualifying period, students must submit progress reports on an annual basis until they have submitted the final version of their thesis for oral examination and have completed any other programme requirements.

8. Thesis:

The MPhil thesis should demonstrate the student's ability to design a research agenda, collect data from a variety of locally available sources, deploy methodologies in a systematic way, build a coherent argument that addresses relevant literature and debates, and indicate prospects for making serious theoretical contributions.

9. Additional Notes:

N.A

Prepared / Last Updated by

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Date: 4 Jan 2025