THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
SCHOOL OF CHINESE MEDICINE  

Master of Science in Chinese Medicines  
Credit Unit Statement  

The two-year Master of Science in Chinese Medicines (“MScChinMeds”) curriculum comprises three different types of courses according to the modes of learning. Taking reference from the norm for a 3-credit course as to embrace 60-90 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity), the majority of courses are 3-credit. There are also a small number of 6-credit courses (which embrace 120-180 learning hours). The taught courses focus on enhancing students’ knowledge of Chinese Medicines in both theoretical and research fields, including scientific knowledge with respect to the chemistry of natural drugs, biochemistry of herb-drug interaction and its relevant clinical importance, as well as the latest development in the use of modern technology for quality control of Chinese medicines and new drug development. The credit units for practices range from 3-6 credits and dissertation is 21. The mode of assessment for each of the courses of MSCM6500, MSCM6504, MSCM6509, MSCM6510, MSCM6602, MSCM 6605 and MSCM6607 are 100% continuous assessment comprising assignments, reports, class presentations, etc. The assessment for the other courses is based on a combination of continuous assessments (30%-100%) comprising case reports, laboratory reports, assignments, class presentations and written examinations (0%-70%) where applicable. The three categories of the MScChinMeds courses are summarized as follows:  

1. **Lecture-based courses (3-6 credits)**  
   These courses aim to mainly enhance students’ knowledge of Chinese Medicines in both theoretical and research fields. Assessment is conducted through 100% continuous assessment, or a combination of continuous assessments (30%-100%) (including assignments, literature review papers, class presentations, laboratory reports, proposal presentations and statistical reports, etc.) and written examinations (0%-70%), where applicable. Outputs may include assignments, presentations, statistical reports and literature review papers, etc. The word requirement for the above outputs range from 1,500-2,000 words.  

2. **Practices (3-6 credits)**  
   First-year students are required to take two practices, namely “Practice I-Modern Analysis of Technology and Quality Control of Chinese Medicines” and “Practice II-Research Progress of Pharmacology and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines” as to gain a better understanding in the operation of Chinese medicine analysis with the use of latest technology. Second-year students are required to participate in another two practices,
namely “Practice III-Chinese Medicines Prescription and New Drug Development” and “Practice IV-Final Year” for gaining an in-depth understanding in the industrialized production process of prescribed Chinese medicines. Assessment is in the form of continuous assessment (100%) (covering laboratory reports/practical reports, attendance and/or performance in practices). Outputs may generally include laboratory reports/practical reports, class presentations and/or alternative course work where applicable. The word requirement for the above outputs range from 1,500-2,000 words.

3. **Dissertation (21 credits)**

All students are required to submit a dissertation followed by an oral examination to be arranged by the School. Outputs include a written dissertation and a 20-minute oral examination for the dissertation. The word requirement for dissertation ranges from 20,000-30,000 words.

The following table summarizes the details of the three categories of courses under the MScChinMeds curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Total Learning Hours</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture-based courses</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>600-900</td>
<td>Assignments, proposal presentations, statistical reports, literature review papers, etc. (word requirement: 1,500-2,000 words)</td>
<td>100% continuous assessment; or a combination of continuous assessments (30%-100%) and written examinations (0-70%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practices</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>360-540</td>
<td>Laboratory reports/practical reports, class presentations and/or alternative course work where applicable (word requirement: 1,500-2,000 words)</td>
<td>100% continuous assessment (including attendance, laboratory reports/practical reports and performance during the practices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>420-630</td>
<td>Written dissertation and a 20-minute oral examination for the dissertation (word requirement: 20,000-30,000 words)</td>
<td>100% dissertation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total contact hours: 552
Total learning hours: 1,380-2,070

(Updated by January 25, 2016)