香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong
專業 創新 胸懷全球
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CIR-RPG

Curriculum Information Record for a Research Degree Programme

Department of Biomedical Sciences
Effective from Semester A 2025/2026
For Students Admitted with Catalogue Term
From Semester A 2019/2020 till Summer Term 2023/2024

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 train and produce graduates with an understanding of advanced developments and highly marketable specialist skills in the disciplines of biology and biomedical sciences, and to meet local and regional requirements in the industrial, commercial, government or education sectors.

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. develop intellectual competence necessary to successful academic and professional work;
2. contribute to the generation and development of knowledge in their respective fields through independent, original, and innovative research;
3. demonstrate specialist subject knowledge and a high level of transferrable skills with an emphasis on discovery-based element.

Part II Programme of Study

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

{***e.g. Applied Mathematics, Electronic Engineering***}

Life Sciences (Biomedical Science, Molecular Science) and Biomedical Engineering

2. Programme Core Courses: (11 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth
Two (2) credits from BMS8102 OR Register at least two courses from BMS8101A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H at two different semesters			
BMS8102	Frontiers in Biomedical Research	R8	2
OR			
BMS8101A	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (A)	R8	1
BMS8101B	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (B)	R8	1
BMS8101C	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (C)	R8	1
BMS8101D	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (D)	R8	1
BMS8101E	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (E)	R8	1
BMS8101F	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (F)	R8	1
BMS8101G	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (G)	R8	1
BMS8101H	Guided Studies for Postgraduate Students (H)	R8	1
And:			
BMS8103	Cell and Molecular Biology Research	R8	3
And any two of the following courses:			
BMS8105	Biotherapy and Nanomedicine	R8	3
BMS8106	Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine	R8	3
BMS8107	Cancer Biology and Precision Medicine	R8	3
BMS8108 or NS8002	Advanced Neuroscience	R8	3
BMS8110	Genomics and Bioinformatics	R8	3
BMS8111	Immunology and Infectious Diseases	R8	3
BMS8112	Viruses, Immunity and Ageing	R8	3
BMS8113	Advanced Biomedical Materials and Devices	R8	3

Remarks:

- Courses will be offered subject to sufficient enrolment.
- Students are normally not allowed to apply for credit transfer for core courses.

3. Research Methodology and Ethics Course(s): (2 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth
BMS8001	Research Ethics and Methodology	R8	2

Remarks:
Students are normally not allowed to apply for credit transfer for BMS8001.

4. Programme Electives: (1 credit)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth
BMS8105	Biotherapy and Nanomedicine	R8	3
BMS8106	Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine	R8	3
BMS8107	Cancer Biology and Precision Medicine	R8	3
BMS8108 or NS8002	Advanced Neuroscience	R8	3
BMS8110	Genomics and Bioinformatics	R8	3
BMS8111	Immunology and Infectious Diseases	R8	3

BMS8112	Viruses, Immunity and Ageing	R8	3
BMS8113	Advanced Biomedical Materials and Devices	R8	3

Remarks:

- Courses will be offered subject to sufficient enrolment.
- A course can be taken as either a core course or an elective only.
- Students may also take postgraduate level courses offered by other academic units as electives upon approval from their supervisors and the course offering units. A list of approved courses is available on Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies (SGS) website.

5. Other Requirements:

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
SG8001	Teaching Students: First Steps	R8	1	The credit unit will not be counted towards the 14 credit units of minimum coursework requirements. To be completed in the first year of study.
—	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 on SGS website.

6. Qualifying Examination (for PhD only):

PhD Students are required to pass a written Qualifying Examination within 10–24 months (full-time) or 20–48 months (part-time). It is an additional requirement on top of the existing Qualifying Report and Annual Progress Report assessment. A maximum of two attempts are allowed. Those students who cannot pass the Qualifying Examination will result in termination of study. A fixed timetable is set for students to take the Qualifying Examination. No schedule change is allowed under normal circumstances.

7. Qualifying/Annual Report Submission:

Students are required to submit

i. Qualifying Report, of which assessment includes a compulsory oral examination,
within 6–12 months (full-time) or 9–18 months (part-time) after commencement of their studies,

and

ii. Annual Progress Reports
on an annual basis after the qualifying period

in compliance with the regulations and guidelines set by SGS accessible via the Guidebook for Research Degree Studies on SGS website.

A Qualifying Panel shall be established for each student upon his/her admission. The Panel should consist of at least three faculty members including the student's supervisor who should be the chair. During the entire study period of the student, the Panel will monitor the student's performance and progress through the supervisor, assess the Qualifying Report and Annual Progress Reports submitted by the student at regular intervals, and make a recommendation to SGS about the student's suitability and capability to continue his/her research study.

8. Thesis:

A PhD thesis should present the results of research investigation, give evidence of a sound understanding of the area of study, its context and applicability, make a contribution to knowledge and make a substantial original contribution to knowledge in the subject areas concerned. Students must submit a thesis for examination by the end of their normal study period or the stipulated study period. The thesis examination should include thesis assessment, an oral examination, and any other assessment arrangements required by the Panel of Examiners.

9. Additional Notes:

Students should always refer to the Guidebook for Research Degree Studies available on SGS website for administrative and operational procedures related to research degree studies at the University. The Department may stipulate a higher standard on the requirements.

Prepared / Last Updated by

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Explanatory Notes for Completing CIR-RPG

1. Research Area

This refers to the research area(s) in which the University offers MPhil and PhD studies.

2. Programme Title

This is the full title of the programme in both English and Chinese. One copy of CIR-RPG should be filled in for each research degree programme (i.e. MPhil or PhD) in each research area which is defined by the name of the Department/School.

3. Award Title

This is the title in both English and Chinese granted by the University upon successful completion of the programme.

4. Number of Credit Units Required for the Award

This specifies the number of credit units required to obtain an award. Students will need to accumulate credit units at or more than this level in order to gain an award.

5. Programme Aims

This is a brief description of what the programme is about and what it intends to achieve.

6. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs)

PILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of a programme according to a given standard of performance. The outcomes statements should be written in a manner which is clearly understood both by students and staff. The outcomes should be achievable and assessable. PILOs should address a number of areas, e.g. subject area, requirements of professional bodies, if any, graduate outcomes of CityU's research degree graduates provided below, etc.

Graduate Outcomes of CityU's Research Degree Graduates:
On graduation, City University research degree graduates will be able to:

- *Apply a thorough understanding of the fundamental concepts of their research areas;*
- *Adopt excellent methodological, and relevant ethical principles in the generation of independent and innovative research;*
- *Generate strategies to develop internationally competitive research in their fields of expertise;*
- *Apply effective communication skills in relation to research.*

7. Programme of Study

This consists of three main parts – Programme Core Courses, Programme Electives and Thesis. Students are required to fulfil the criteria stipulated in each part so as to obtain an award.

Please refer to the following programme structure for research degree programmes for filling in this section:

MPhil

	Coursework Structure applying to 2019/20 intake cohort and thereafter
Core Courses	N/A
Elective Courses	At least 2 CUs of research methodology[#] and ethics course at postgraduate level and other postgraduate courses so as to satisfy the minimum coursework requirement of 7 CUs

Total	**7 CUs**
Other Requirement *(not counted towards the University's coursework requirement)*	Teaching Students: First Steps (SG8001) (1 CU)

CU = credit unit

PhD

	Coursework Structure applying to 2019/20 intake cohort and thereafter
Core Courses	At least 9 CUs at research level[@]
Elective Courses	At least 2 CUs of research methodology[#] and ethics course at postgraduate level and other postgraduate courses so as to satisfy the minimum coursework requirement of 14 CUs
Total	**14 CUs**
Other Requirement *(not counted towards the University's coursework requirement)*	Teaching Students: First Steps (SG8001) (1 CU)

CU = credit unit

[#] College, school or departmental seminars related to research methodology are not considered as equivalent to the Research Methodology course if they consist of student presentations only, without a teaching component.

[@] All core courses should be assessed in gradable mode (A+, A, …F), instead of pass-fail mode.

8. Programme Core Courses

These are the compulsory courses as required by the relevant faculty or school.

9. Programme Electives

These are courses from which students select courses based on their interests.

10. Additional Notes

This may consist of information on any special features of the programme.

11. Amendments/Revisions to CIR-RPG

Amendment or revisions to the information provided in CIR-RPG are subject to the procedures outlined in the University's guidelines on approval authorities for academic and research matters. College and School Boards should consider delegation of authority to C/SGSC as necessary to facilitate innovation and change as appropriate.