# BSocSc

MAJOR MINOR PROGRAMMES –

## Social Policy and Social Development

# Course Roadmap

This course road map is a recommended plan of study for SPSD major and minor programmes. It is a guide to help students make informed decisions regarding their course selection, skills development as well as career path.

SOCIAL DATA & RESEARCH

SOCIAL POLICY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SOCIAL INNOVATION
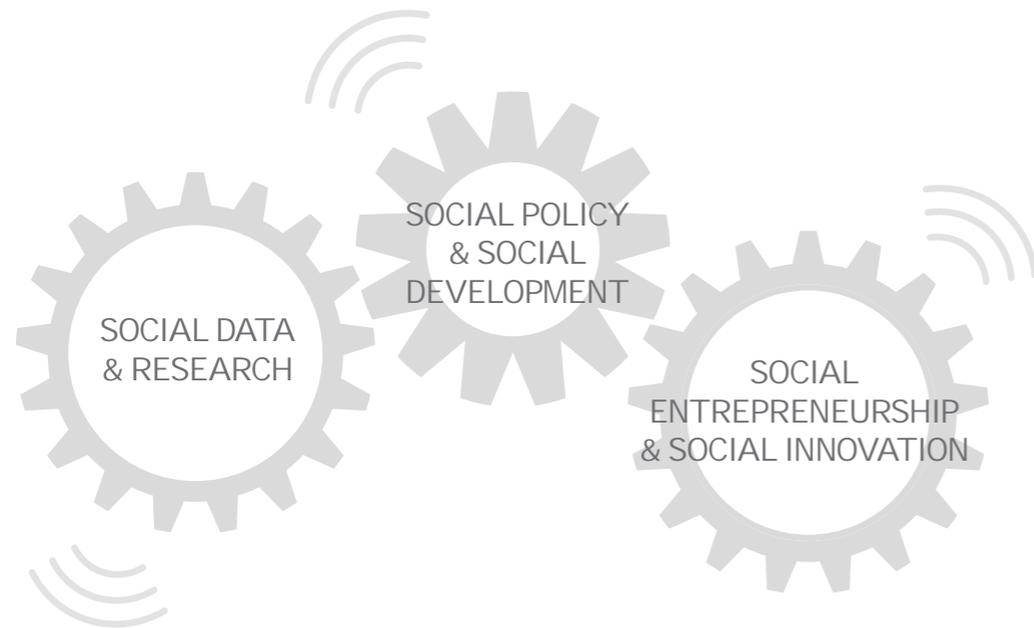
## FOUNDATION
### INTRODUCTORY COURSE

SOWK1015 Introduction to social policy and social development

## CONSOLIDATION
### COMPULSORY COURSES

**MAJOR**
- SOWK2141 Social entrepreneurship and social innovation
- SOWK2142 Advanced social policy and social development
- SOWK2143 Social research method
- SOWK2144 Introduction to social data analysis

**MINOR** (Choose 2 of the above courses)

## THEMES
### ELECTIVE COURSES

**THEORY AND SOCIAL ISSUES**
- SOWK2023 Social policy issues in Hong Kong
- SOWK2062 Special topics in social study
- SOWK2122 Community building and the civil society
- SOWK2131 Behavioral economics for social change
- SOWK2132 International comparative social policy
- SOWK2134 Social development in modern China
- SOWK2139 Human-centered approach for social innovation: Design thinking
- SOWK2140 Diversity and social inclusion
- SOWK3088 Becoming a change maker: Skills and practice for effective social entrepreneurship and social innovation
- SOWK3092 Migration and mobility
- SOWK3094 Project development and management
- SOWK3098 Community partnership, public engagement and political dynamics
- SOWK3099 Population and development
- SOWK3133 Policy advocacy practice
- SOWK3135 Doing good and doing well: Business model for social enterprise
- SOWK4055 Management in human service organizations

**RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY**
- SOWK3136 Big data for social change
- SOWK3137 Qualitative data analysis
- SOWK3138 Advanced social data analysis
- SOWK3139 Policy and programme evaluation
- SOWK3140 Survey methods for social science research

## INTEGRATION AND APPLICATION
### CAPSTONE COURSE

SOWK4011 Capstone project on social policy and social development

BECOME A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

Work for a just and caring society

Department of Social Work and Social Administration
The University of Hong Kong

# BSocSc
## MAJOR MINOR PROGRAMMES –
### Social Policy and Social Development

The SPSD programme is of interest to students who want to address challenges in social development, to engage in social innovation, and to strive for the betterment of human condition. We tackle social issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, with faculty expertise in social policy, social work, international development, and social statistics.

Our curriculum incorporates training in social innovation and social entrepreneurship, social development, behavioral economics, social research, and data analytics. Our students work with faculty who lead innovative, locally and globally cutting-edge research, including poverty dynamics and alleviation, social welfare policies, big data analytics in health and mental health, migration studies, and human trafficking.

By completing this programme, students will be equipped with:

**THEORIES** of social policy and social development in local and global contexts

**ABILITY** in evaluating social policy and assess social needs through rigorous research

**AWARENESS** on contemporary social issues and social justice

**COMPETENCIES** in design and provision of policy and social services

**LEADERSHIP** in social development and advocacy for social change

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE (2019 intake and thereafter)

| Programme Components | No. of Credits | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | Major | Minor |
| **Introductory Courses** | | |
| • Disciplinary | 6 | 6 |
| • Pre-requisite* | 12 | --- |
| **Advanced Courses** | | |
| • Compulsory Course(s) | 24 | 12 |
| • Disciplinary Electives | 24 | 18 |
| • Capstone Experience | 6 | --- |
| • Social Innovation and Global Citizenship# | 24 | --- |
| | 96 | 36 |

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.
# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

## Programme Highlights

### CAPSTONE COURSE

#### SOWK4011 Capstone Project in Social Policy and Social Development

The capstone project is a compulsory course that major students take in their final year of study. It provides a platform for students to integrate what they have learnt in the curriculum, engage in independent study on a specific issue related to social development, and develop innovative strategies for tackling such an issue. Students can demonstrate their experiential learning and teamwork through the creative output of a group project and presentation to instructors and peers. Our students are encouraged to conduct their projects across a range of topics including:

- Community Development
- Education
- Housing
- Medical and healthcare
- Social enterprise
- Social welfare services
- Any other innovative projects

### COURSES IN LOCAL AND GLOBAL CONTEXTS WITH INTERDISCIPLINARY AND MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH

The programme adopts an interdisciplinary and multidimensional approach, and introduces students to fundamental theories, models and debates related to various social policy domains and development strategies adopted in Hong Kong, the Asia region and in the global context, thus also carrying an international focus. It also focuses on the intersectionality of the social and the development aspects of policy and planning practice. Courses draw on established strengths in the SWSA Department in such areas as social policy, population and migration studies, community development, social enterprise, and non-profit management.

### EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

With the incorporation of experiential learning (e.g. agency visits, study trips), students gain a wide latitude of perspectives on different issues, challenges and policy strategies related to social development at local, regional and international levels.

## Career opportunities

This programme equips students with relevant and cutting-edge knowledge and skills in working across sectors: governments, communities, civil society, and the private sector, taking up such possible positions as government officials, policy researchers, analysts and advocates, NGO programme managers, social entrepreneurs, community organizers, journalists and more. A large selection of elective courses is provided for students to pursue their interested specialization in 'Social Policy and Social Development', 'Social Entrepreneurship & Social Innovation' and 'Social Data and Research'. This flexibility allows students to design their own curriculum to suit their individual academic and career aspirations.

| Specialization | Career Prospects |
| --- | --- |
| **Social Policy and Social Development** Students interested in the analysis, interpretation and communication of important social policy and social development topics such as poverty and inequality, housing and job security will gain valuable knowledge about interrelationships between government, private sector, civil society and the public and gain skills in working among the systems to promote social change. | • Government Officer<br>• Policy Researcher<br>• Policy Analyst<br>• Development Officer<br>• Policy Advocate<br>• Legislative Assistant<br>• Assistant to Political Leaders<br>• Project Manager<br>• Community Organizer |
| **Social Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation** This specialization targets students who are interested in pursuing careers in social enterprise or management of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Courses cover theories and concepts around change, leadership, creativity and sustainable intervention for bringing about desirable social change. Through multi-disciplinary, multi-sector civic engagement and innovation, students develop critical appreciation of needs and social problems in economic, political, and societal contexts. | • Social Entrepreneur<br>• Project Manager<br>• Grantmaking Analyst<br>• Innovation Researcher<br>• Social Media Manager<br>• Communications Officer<br>• Business Development Manager<br>• Marketing Manager |
| **Social Data and Research** The knowledge and capacity to utilize research evidence to inform social actions are extraordinarily crucial today. Our series of courses on social data and research trains students to be competent consumers and producers of research evidence that informs social change. | • Monitoring and Evaluation Officer<br>• Social Data Analyst<br>• Policy Analyst<br>• Market Research Analyst |

## FURTHER STUDIES

Further study opportunities provided by the Department of Social Work and Social Administration:

**Master of Social Work**

A professional training programme for non-social work first-degree holders who are dedicated to develop their career in social services. Graduates are qualified for registration as Registered Social Workers (RSW).

**Master of Social Sciences**

M.Soc.Sc. (Counselling)
M.Soc.Sc. (Behavioral Health)
M.Soc.Sc. (Gerontology)
M.Soc.Sc. (Mental Health)
M.Soc.Sc. (Nonprofit Management)
M.Soc.Sc. (Social Service Management)
M.Soc.Sc. (Social Work – Family)
M.Soc.Sc. (Social Work – Youth Stream)

**Master of Expressive Arts Therapy**

**Master of Philosophy**