Students’ Voices

““The MSW program facilitated both my personal and professional growth as a social worker. The courses equipped me with both conceptual frameworks and up-to-date knowledge. Meanwhile, the placements and course activities polished my social work assessment and intervention skills by putting what I learnt into practice. These experiences also made me reflect on my personal values and beliefs. With the continuous support and guidance from my teachers, supervisors, department staff, and classmates, the MSW journey has shaped a better me.”

Chen Shao | MSW Full-time Graduate

“I appreciate the department’s endeavours to encourage collaboration between different cohorts and graduates through workshops and gatherings. Such connections enable students to gather perspectives apart from academics to cultivate a positive identification with social work ethics, policies and development.”

Cheng Ka Man Patrick | MSW Part-time Graduate

“The MSW programme gave me many unforgettable memories. Not only do the teachers guide us to be professional social workers, they are also concerned about our well-being and personal growth. Also, the programme offered us insightful perspectives on personal and social issues and equipped us with useful intervention skills to address. As a graduate, I strongly feel that the HKU MSW programme has enriched my practice wisdom as well as my academic capacity.”

Huang Weijie Jason | MSW Part-time Graduate

“The MSW programme provides me with an opportunity to learn in a classroom setting as well as a culturally diverse environment. In the classroom, I have learnt how to identify service users’ problems/needs and formulate evidence-based interventions, which make social work a profession. As HKU welcomes students from all backgrounds, its diversity helps sharpen my cultural sensitivity daily. More importantly, I am inspired by some teachers’ passion which gives me much encouragement. Being a social worker is challenging but passion is definitely one of our anchors!”

Suen Kan Fong | Full-time current student

“What impressed me the most in the HKU MSW programme was the supportive teaching crew throughout the study. They offered concrete and non-judgmental advice and support anytime you approached them. Meanwhile, they cared for students’ well-being in a comprehensive way that wasn’t limited to the social worker/career prospect. The fact that they reminded me support in the past two years motivates me to give back to the Department even now.”

Chan Hiu Lam | MSW Full-time Graduate
Our MSW Programme has a rich tradition of providing social work education across the Asia-Pacific region. We provide students with a great appreciation for the breadth of social work, and the diverse roles that social workers can play in multiple areas of direct practice, in policy, in research, in administration, and in community and organizational change.

**MSW graduates are eligible for professional registration under the Hong Kong Social Workers Registration Board.**

Registering Social Workers (RSW) in Hong Kong. Registration facilitates employment in government departments and NGOs as family, medical, youth, and school social workers.

**Why get an MSW at HKU?**

HKU is a leading university in social work education in the region that offers:

- Professional training with an innovative curriculum of advanced concentration
- A global vision through overseas field education, study tours and a diverse teacher-student community
- A competent teaching team with renowned international and local faculty members in social work research, education and clinical practice
- Numerous opportunities for professional training and experiential learning through more than 350 local and international field placement options
- In recent years, we have sent students to Australia, Canada, Mainland China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, the U.K., and the U. S.A. for third field placements. We truly offer our students to have more exposure on international social work
- A global network of graduates who are making contributions in non-profit, government, corporate, and academic arenas

**Curriculum Structure**

Students are required to complete 10 compulsory courses, 2 elective courses, 2 additional elective courses or a dissertation, 100 hours of pre-placement workshop, and 900 hours of field placement.

**Compassory Courses**

- Social policy and administration
- Social work research
- Human behaviour and the social environment I
- Human behaviour and the social environment II
- The Law, ethics and social work
- Social services management
- Social science theories for social work
- Theory and practice of social work – Casework
- Theory and practice of social work – Group work
- Theory and practice of social work – Community Development

**Advanced Concentration**

2 concentration core courses from one of the following concentrations + 2 elective courses/dissertation:
- Children & youth
- Family social work
- Gerontology
- Health & mental health
- Policy, research & management

**Field Placement**

- 100 hours of pre-placement workshop
- 450 hours of foundation fieldwork placement
- 450 hours of advanced fieldwork placement

**MSW Full-time Curriculum Structure 2022-23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Summer Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Pre-placement workshop</td>
<td>Field placement I</td>
<td>Field placement II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Social work research</td>
<td>Social policy and administration</td>
<td>To be employed in the government department and NGOs as family social workers, medical social workers, youth workers, school social workers etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment I</td>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Casework</td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Community Development</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Social science theories for social work</td>
<td>Social service management</td>
<td>The law, ethics and social work</td>
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<td>Field placement I</td>
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**MSW Part-time Curriculum Structure 2022-23**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>First Semester</th>
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<th>Summer Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Pre-placement workshop</td>
<td>Social policy and administration</td>
<td>Field placement I</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Social work research</td>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment I</td>
<td>The law, ethics and social work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Casework</td>
<td>Social service management</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Group work</td>
<td>Social science theories for social work</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Community Development</td>
<td>Field placement II</td>
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*Remarks: Curriculum structure is subject to adjustments.