“Master of Social Work in HKU gives me a comprehensive learning experience. Teachers do not only teach about theories but also practical skills in courses like casework and community development. All the knowledge learned in school can be utilized and practiced in the placement with the guidance of an experienced supervisor and the attached agency. The all-rounded exposure has broadened my horizon and helped me to prepare for my future career.”

“Flexible placement arrangement in MSW allows us to choose a sector where we can exercise our social work core competency to serve the community. With an interest in mental health, I had the opportunity to approach people in recovery at different stages, allowing me to enhance my professional growth and understanding on how the community-based service collaboration can enhance their rehabilitation.”

“Appreciate HKU with her strength in both international and local connection, and this can bridge students with different professionals for diverse social work knowledge, skills, and ethical practices. As a part-time student, the opportunities allow me to critically apply my learning to the day-time front-line job in elderly setting. I can develop my confidence and enhance my capacity to overcome the ever-changing challenges in becoming a competent social worker.”

“MSW in HKU is certainly something unforgettable. The programme provides a spectrum of professional knowledge to candidates who would like to become social workers. The exercise, bonding among classmates and academic staff are catalysts for my effective and enjoyable learning throughout the challenging, yet fruitful, academic years.”

“The MSW programme enabled me to gain front-line experience working with clients, fellow social workers and local stakeholders. These experiences have been very enriching for both my professional and personal lives. I was able to gain invaluable friendships through the program. It has been a very inspiring journey.”
Our MSW Programme has a rich tradition in providing social work education across the Asia-Pacific regions. We provide students 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.**

**Why studying 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 concentrations
- 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
- A global network of graduates who are making contributions in non-profit, government, corporate, and academic arenas

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**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.

**Compulsory 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 other elective courses/dissertation:

- Children & youth
- Family social work
- Gerontology
- Health & mental health
- Policy, research & management

**Field Placement** (Capstone experience courses)

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

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**MSW Full-time Curriculum Structure 2020-21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Semester</td>
<td>Second Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-placement workshop</td>
<td>Social work research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social work research</td>
<td>Social policy and administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment I</td>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Casework</td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Group work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social science theories for social work</td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Community Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MSW Part-time Curriculum Structure 2020-21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Semester</td>
<td>Second Semester</td>
<td>Summer Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-placement workshop</td>
<td>Social work research</td>
<td>Social science theories for social work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social work research</td>
<td>Social policy and administration</td>
<td>Field placement I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment I</td>
<td>Human behaviour and the social environment II</td>
<td>Field placement I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Casework</td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Group work</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social science theories for social work</td>
<td>Theory and practice of social work – Community Development</td>
<td>Field placement I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**General Stream**

- 2 Elective Courses from Practice Domains
  - 2 Elective Courses / Dissertation

**Advanced Concentration Stream**

- 2 Concentration Core Courses
  - 2 Elective Courses / Dissertation