



Curriculum Information Record for a Research Degree Programme

Department of Biomedical Sciences Effective from Semester A 2026/2027 For Students Admitted with Catalogue Term Semester A 2026/2027 and thereafter

This form is for completion by the College/School/Academy/Department for research degree programme. The information provided on this form is the official record of the Programme. It will be used for City University of Hong Kong's database, various City University of Hong Kong 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:

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

2. Programme Core Courses: (9 credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
Register at least four (4) courses at four different semesters				
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				
BMS8200A	PhD Research Seminars	R8	2	
and				
BMS8103	Cell and Molecular Biology Research	R8	3	
OR				
BMS8110	Genomics and Bioinformatics	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	Remarks
BMS8001	Research Ethics and Methodology	R8	2	

4. Programme Electives: (3 credits)

Please provide a general description *OR* fill in the following table, as appropriate.

Course Code	Course Title	Level	Units Worth	Remarks
BMS8103	Cell and Molecular Biology Research	R8	3	
BMS8105	Biotherapy and Nanomedicine	R8	3	
BMS8106	Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine	R8	3	
BMS8107	Cancer Biology and Precision Medicine	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	
NS8002	Advanced Neuroscience	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:

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.

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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.

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 CityUHK's research degree graduates provided below, etc.

Graduate Outcomes of CityUHK's Research Degree Graduates:

On graduation, City University of Hong Kong's research degree graduates will be able to achieve the following:

- *Become an independent scholar;*
- *Conceptualise methodically;*
- *Strategise competitively;*
- *Apply results beneficially;*
- *Communicate professionally.*

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: 7 credit units (including at least 2 credit units of research methodology and ethics course at postgraduate level);
AND a compulsory 1 credit unit course: Teaching Students: First Steps (SG8001)

PhD: 14 credit units (including at least 9 credit units of core courses and at least 2 credit units of research methodology and ethics course at postgraduate level)
AND a compulsory 1 credit unit course: Teaching Students: First Steps (SG8001)

- # 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.

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.