

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course offered by the College of Business with effect from Semester A in 2012 / 2013

Part I

Course Title: Doctoral Thesis

Course Code: FB8007D

Course Duration:

Credit Units: 30

Level: D8

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Completion of the core taught DBA component

Equivalent Courses: Nil

Exclusive Courses: *(Course Code and Title)* Nil

Part II

Course Aims

The Doctoral Thesis aims to provide students with an opportunity to perform an independent piece of rigorous research at the doctoral level on a significant applied research problem in the context of the students' workplace or the students' professional practice in general. In addition, the Doctoral Thesis provides a platform on which interdisciplinary applied business research problems may be tackled with scholarly rigour.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Identify suitable applied business research problems and formulate them in an appropriate way amendable to rigorous research	
2.	Critically assess the relevant literature	
3.	Develop and / or apply appropriate theories and research methods to address the chosen research problems	
4.	Present the results of the research lucidly in a coherent and well structured written doctoral thesis	
5.	Make a substantial original intellectual contribution to business and management practice	

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

Each student will be assigned an academic supervisor normally based on the match between the research interests of the student and the supervisor. Supervisors will be drawn from the academic staff of the College of Business and are experienced in the conduct of high quality research and postgraduate dissertation supervision. Students should meet their academic supervisors regularly and are expected to carry out their thesis research under the close guidance of their academic supervisors.

A Qualifying Panel should be established for each student on commencement of the thesis following the regulations governing professional doctorate programmes as stipulated by the School of Graduate Studies.

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

- The research reported in the thesis may be based on problems in a specific business or organisation, or in the context of a specific industry or profession. The thesis must display a high level of intellectual accomplishment and innovation and must exhibit more than one of the following characteristics:
- Makes a substantial intellectual contribution to the candidate's business (or organization) or to the candidate's professional discipline; and
- Could be published in a mainstream professional or research journal.

The length of a thesis should normally be at least 50,000 words.

A Panel of Examiners should be formed to assess a student's thesis and conduct an oral examination following the regulations governing professional doctorate programmes as stipulated by the School of Graduate Studies.

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1 - 5	Coursework	100 %	

Grading of Student Achievement: Grading mode: Pass / Fail