

## **Master of Arts (MA) Program in Chinese Culture**

### **Academic Director:**

Jianmei LIU, Associate Professor of Humanities

### **Associate Director:**

May-yi SHAW, Assistant Professor of Humanities Education

The Master of Arts (MA) program in Chinese Culture equips students with a multidisciplinary range of knowledge about Chinese culture from the humanities perspective. These disciplines include history, literature, religion, philosophy, anthropology and linguistics. This knowledge of China is imperative to students who aspire to know more about the culture of the country. It is also an important asset to those whose careers have a close relationship with China in fields like education, government, business, industry, media, non-profit, foreign relations, academic and so on. A better understanding of the Chinese culture from a multidisciplinary perspective will greatly enhance competitiveness in the career path.

### ***Admission Requirements***

Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree from a university or a recognized institution, or have obtained qualifications approved by the University to be equivalent to a first degree. Priority will be given to applicants with humanities or social science background.

Proficiency in both English and Chinese is important for successful completion of the program. For applicants whose first language is not Chinese and who do not complete their first degree in a Chinese-medium university or Chinese-medium academic program, they are required to fulfill the Chinese requirement of Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK by Hanban or the "New HSK") level 4 or above, or equivalent.

### ***Program Duration***

The MA program can normally be completed in 12 months in full-time mode, or 24 months in part-time mode. Full-time students are required to take a minimum of 9 credits of coursework each regular term, whereas part-time students are required to take a minimum of 3 credits each regular term. With the approval of the Academic Director, a student may take study leave for no more than one regular term.

### ***Program Fee***

The total program fee for 2015-16 is HK\$100,000. New students admitted with credit transfer are also required to pay the full program fee. Students who need to retake failed course(s) must pay the pro-rated fee for the necessary course(s).

### ***Curriculum***

Students must take eight courses (24 credits), including two compulsory foundation courses (6 credits), two required courses (6 credits), and four elective courses (12 credits).

a) Foundation courses (6 credits)

- HMMA 5001 Fundamentals of Chinese Culture
- LANG 5072\* English Academic Writing on Chinese Culture

b) Required courses (6 credits)

- HUMA 5160 Chinese Historical Phonology
- HUMA 5300 Chinese Literary History
- HUMA 5510 Pre-Modern Chinese History; or  
HUMA 5520 Modern Chinese History
- HUMA 5700 Anthropological Studies of China
- HUMA 5800 Fundamentals of Chinese Philosophy

Not all required courses are offered every year. At least four courses out of the list are offered in every Fall Term. Students are advised to take the two required courses in Fall Term.

c) Elective courses (12 credits)

Students can choose from a list of China-related elective courses offered each year by the Division of Humanities. Surplus required course credits can be counted toward the elective requirement.

Out of the six required and elective courses (18 credits):

- One must be taught in English, but Chinese reading materials may be used. Subject to the approval of the Academic Director, students can take a non-HUMA course to fulfill this requirement.
- One may be a non-China-related course, subject to the approval of the Academic Director.

### ***Language Requirement***

Many courses are taught in English but assign readings in Chinese. Some courses are taught in Chinese (Putonghua) due to academic reasons. Students must be able to demonstrate proficiency in both English and Chinese.

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\* *Exemption may be granted with prior approval of the Academic Director (normally with IELTS score of 8.0 or above, or equivalent, and successfully passed an English written test on Chinese culture). Students given exemption should take one more elective course to fulfill the graduation requirement of 24 credits.*

***Academic Advising***

Upon entering the program, students' progress will be monitored by the Academic Director of the Program.

***Graduation Requirements***

Students must complete the program with a graduation grade average (GGA) of 2.850 or above as required of all postgraduate students at the University.