City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of MBE
with effect from Semester B in 2014/2015

Part I

Course Title: **Dissertation**

Course Code: **MBE6008**

Course Duration:

> **Normal duration:** **2 Semesters + Summer Term (Part-time student)**
> **1 Semester + Summer Term (Full-time student)**
> **1 Semester (with prior approval)**
> **Maximum duration: 5 Semesters / Terms**

This is a dissertation-type course. The duration of the course cannot be extended beyond the maximum duration. Dissertation-type courses cannot be repeated.

Credit Units: **9**

Level: **P6**

Medium of Instruction: **English**

Prerequisites: **MBE6022 with B+ or above with approval from an academic staff member who will be the dissertation supervisor**

Precursors: **Nil**

Equivalent Courses: **Nil**

Exclusive Courses: **Nil**

Part II

1. **Course Aims:**
   The aim of the dissertation is to demonstrate the student's ability to carry out independent research and development work and to develop expertise in a chosen subject of MBE6022 Project Development Study through the application of theory and techniques provided by the MSATM programme. In undertaking the dissertation, the student should demonstrate initiative and intellectual achievement, understanding of the chosen subject matter, and the principles being applied. He/She will also develop and demonstrate the ability to puruse a subject area of the course to substantial depth and present the dissertation in a precise and coherent manner.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No	CILO	Weighting* (if applicable)
C1	**Define** the nature, aim, scope and importance of a selected topic clearly in the major areas or the nuclear stream of MSATM	**1**
C2	**Review** the body of knowledge from selected literature to deepen the understanding of the theory or practice relevant to the chosen dissertation.	**2**
C3	**Apply** such theory or knowledge to formulate and implement the methodology for the chosen dissertation.	**3**
C4	**Communicate** effectively the dissertation process, results, experience and reflection coherently, logically and precisely, using written, oral and visual media.	**2**

*Weighting ranging from 1,2,3 to indicate the relative level of importance in an ascending order.

3. 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)

T1	Each student shall define, under the supervision of a dissertation supervisor, the nature, aim, scope and importance of a project relevant to the major areas or the nuclear stream of MSATM.	**C1**
T2	Each student shall research and review the appropriate body of knowledge and background information needed to achieve the defined dissertation objective(s).	**C2^**
T3.1	Each student shall appraise and select the knowledge, theory or practice from literature and develop the appropriate dissertation methodology.	**C3^**
T3.2	Implement the methodology to the chosen problem or project.	
T3.3	Analyze the results obtained, draw conclusion and critically appraise the work done.	
T4.1	Document the dissertation process, results, experience and reflection in the form of MSATM dissertation according to the given format.	**C4**
T4.2	Give presentation and defend dissertation endeavour and outcome when required.	

4. Grading of Student Achievement:

Assessment is 100% by Coursework

Grading pattern: Standard (A+AA-...F) according to the following scale:

Grades	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Marks %	>85	80-85	76-79	70-75	64-69	59-63	54-58	49-53	44-48	40-43	<40

CILO	TLA	Assessment Outcome Template					Weight
		Fail **0-39%**	**Pass** **40-54%**	**Satisfactory** **55-69%**	**Good** **70-84%**	**Very Good** **85-100%**	
C1	T1	Project significance unrecognizable, aim/objectives and scope ill-defined	Marginally sufficient evidence of project significance and definition of project aim/objectives and scope	Sufficiently clear evidence of project significance and definition of project aim/objectives and scope	Clear evidence of project significance and definition of project aim/objectives and scope	Very convincing evidence of project significance and very clear and coherent definition of project aim/objectives and scope	10%
C2*	T2	Hardly any evidence of literature enquiry	Moderate literature review and adequate understanding	Satisfactory literature review and understanding	Good literature review and evidence of good understanding of key literature	Very good literature review and evidence of very good understanding of key literature	20%
C3*	T3.1	Hardly any appraisal or use of literature in support of methodology development	Moderate literature support and basic methodology development	Satisfactory literature support in methodology development	Good literature support in methodology development	Very good literature support in methodology development	15%
	T3.2	Methodology unrecognizable	Marginally adequate methodology	Adequate methodology	Good methodology, well implemented	Exemplary methodology, very well implemented	15%
	T3.3	Poor, incoherent, unclear analysis; unable to draw sensible conclusion	Marginally adequate analysis, discussion of results and conclusion	Satisfactory analysis, discussion of results and meaningful appraisal and conclusion	Good logical analysis, clear discussion of results, convincing appraisal and conclusion	Very methodical analysis, very convincing discussion of results, appraisal and conclusion	15%
C4	T4.1	Poor documentation, incomplete or poorly structured	Adequate documentation, comprehensible	Satisfactory documentation, coherent and well structured	Good documentation, very well structured with few deficiencies	Exemplary documentation, complete, professional or scholarly	25%

	T4.2	Poor presentation, incoherent, unclear; unable to answer questions satisfactorily	Adequate presentation and answers to questions	Satisfactory presentation, evident of fair understanding in response to questions	Clear presentation, well delivered, evident of good understanding in response to questions	Impressive presentation, completely clear and very persuasive	Pass / Fail

^ *Note: For a dissertation that is principally based on survey study and critique of literature, the intended learning outcomes C2 and C3 and their corresponding T2 and T3s may be assessed together.*

Assessment Process:

The submitted written Dissertation is assessed by the Supervisor (and any Co-Supervisor) and another independent Assessor. A student may be asked to make an Oral Defence of the Dissertation work in the presence of a Dissertation Committee nominee, the Supervisor, the Assessor and any Co-Supervisor.

After the written Dissertation has been assessed to be satisfactory, a student must submit two bound copies of his/her final Dissertation and a softcopy on disk to the Dissertation Committee via his/her Supervisor. In general, equal weighting would be given to the Supervisor's and the independent Assessor's assessments. The Dissertation Committee shall resolve any major discrepancies between the assessments made by Supervisors and Assessors.

Teaching Pattern:

There are no formal lectures for this course. Students are required to undertake individually supervised work.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

Independent research. Individually chosen dissertation topic. Application and integration of theories, techniques and practices of selected topic in the major areas or the nuclear stream of MSATM.

Recommended Reading: N.A.