

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
with effect from Semester A 2024 / 25**

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**Part I Course Overview**

<b>Course Title:</b>	<u>Comprehensive Studies</u>
<b>Course Code:</b>	<u>MNE8001M</u>
<b>Course Duration:</b>	<u>Normally within one academic year of the candidate's MPhil/PhD studies</u>
<b>Credit Units:</b>	<u>3</u>
<b>Level:</b>	<u>R8</u>
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	<u>English</u>
<b>Medium of Assessment:</b>	<u>English</u>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
<b>Precursors:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
<b>Equivalent Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>MNE8001 Comprehensive Studies</u>
<b>Exclusive Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

The aim of the course is to broaden and deepen the student's knowledge and understanding of a specified subject area or topic considered to be relevant to the MPhil/PhD student's area of research.

The course objectives are:

- to provide a framework for an MPhil/PhD postgraduate student to undertake and to a prescribed programme of studies of a specified subject area or topic;
- to develop and further a postgraduate student's knowledge and understanding of that subject area or topic which is regarded to be essential to his/her research;
- to cater for the student's coursework needs which cannot be met by available courses.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	<b>Identify and define</b> the issues of significance and scope of the given subject area or topic in explicit terms.		√	√	
2.	<b>Review and critique</b> the body of knowledge from literature of the given subject area or topic.			√	
3.	<b>Apply</b> such theory or knowledge to lay the foundation or formulate the research methodology for the main research undertaken.			√	√
4.	<b>Participate</b> in the regular meetings with supervisor to report progress and findings. <b>Communicate</b> the results and achievements of this directed studies scholarly and logically, using written, oral and visual media.			√	√
		N.A.			

A1: Attitude

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

A2: Ability

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.*

A3: Accomplishments

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Independent Studies	Student is expected to carry out independent research and literature studies on the given subject area or topic.	√	√	√		
Group Discussion*	Group Discussion sections are provided to students to help them identify suitable topics and methodologies for the project. These sections may provide a peer-learning platform for students to share their learning experience and discuss their questions. Students are required to give a presentation in the end of the course to present their findings and recommendations.			√	√	
Supervised learning	Each student has regular meetings with his/her supervisor. In the meeting, the supervisor discusses with the student on his/her progress, issues and findings, and offer advice to him/her.	√	√	√	√	

\*may be adjusted suitably when the students need to pursue very diverse topics

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
Proposal	√				10%	
Report		√	√	√	70%	
Poster/Presentation		√		√	20%	
Examination: 0%						
					100%	

The assessment method(s) shall be designed and proposed by the student's Supervisor and the Qualifying Panel.

The following assessment method(s) may be adopted:

- coursework and written test(s); or
- coursework and oral presentation / test(s); or
- combination of all of the above.

\*Note: This course will be offered outside Hong Kong. However, relevant assignments and studies conducted on CityU campus will be counted towards the fulfillment of this course.

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Proposal	Develop a project proposal in consultation with an assigned supervisor, which includes the definition of the problem and main outcomes to be accomplished.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Report	Evidence of good literature review to develop a methodology to accomplish the project objectives, project execution and the results obtained, analysing the results and drawing relevant conclusions along with related discussion.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Poster/Presentation	Summarize the critical aspects of the project undertaken, methodology adopted to accomplish the stated objective, and conclusions drawn showing key results in a concise manner in the form of a poster or through a presentation.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
Proposal	Develop a project proposal in consultation with an assigned supervisor, which includes the definition of the problem and main outcomes to be accomplished.	High	Significant	Moderate	Not even reaching marginal levels
Report	Evidence of good literature review to develop a methodology to accomplish the project objectives, project execution and the results obtained, analysing the results and drawing relevant conclusions along with related discussion.	High	Significant	Moderate	Not even reaching marginal levels
Poster/Presentation	Summarize the critical aspects of the project undertaken, methodology adopted to accomplish the stated objective, and conclusions drawn showing key results in a concise manner in the form of a poster or through a presentation.	High	Significant	Moderate	Not even reaching marginal levels

### **Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### **1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

The specific syllabus or content requirement for this course is to be designed by the postgraduate students' supervisor(s). The assignments and directed readings will be mainly but not exclusively based on his/her area of research.

Typically, student will be expected under the guidance of supervisor, conduct in depth review of relevant literature; critique the existing body of knowledge and lay the necessary foundation for the proposed research; conduct preliminary data gathering and analysis or case studies; preparation and presentation of the report; and dissemination of the findings and application in the context concerned.

Supervisor is expected to provide a written outline of the content requirement and assessment methods when prescribing this course.

#### **2. Reading List**

##### **2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

N.A.

##### **2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

As advised by the course tutor(s) to match the subject area(s) being pursued by the enrolled research students.