Master of Social Sciences in Psychology
(Schools and Community Settings)

Dr. CHUNG Yiu Bun
Programme Leader
Department of Psychology
The Education University of Hong Kong

www.eduhk.hk/msocscp
MSocScP(SCS)

• The MSocScP(SCS) is a Taught Postgraduate “Conversion Programme” aimed at bachelor degree holders who are seeking an English-language Masters qualification in Psychology

• Eligible to apply for the Graduate Membership of Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPS)

• Broad and deep introduction to all areas of Psychology; knowledge and skills to improve your current career and workplace (e.g. as teachers, school leaders or other education professionals in various settings)

• 2020/21 will be the 7th cohort of the MSocScP(SCS)
Special Features

• Foundational and advanced training in **all basic areas of psychology** (equivalent to a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology)

• **PLUS** a **special focus** on applications to learning and education

• Courses taught by award-winning teaching personnel and experts in the field
  — Lots of research grants
Special Features

• Diverse classmates:
  – Full-time or part-time classmate who
    • May aim at further study and/or immediate application;
    • Are teachers, sport coaches, medical practitioner, full-time mothers, businesspeople, social workers, and counsellors, etc.

• For applicants who have not taken the prerequisite Introductory Psychology course, a self-financed, online “Bridging Course” is offered
  – The Bridging Course offered in 2020 will be an intensive, online, introductory psychology course offered in June and July
  – Final in-person exam held in late July
Prospect

• **Careers:**
  – Teaching, management, marketing and research etc.

• **Further Studies**
  – Master degree in Educational Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, MPhil, PhD, Doctor of Education programmes in Hong Kong and abroad

• **Achievement:**
  – Published research papers in psychology journals (e.g. Instructional Science etc.)
  – Presented papers in the conference presentations (e.g. International Conference on Teaching and Education Sciences, The Hong Kong Psychological Society Annual Conference etc.)
  – Psychologists and Therapists
Graduates’ Words

“After working as a frontline teacher, I wanted to study psychology to gain a deeper understanding of how our brains learn and to examine ways of increasing our ability to comprehend and retain knowledge. This programme has equipped me with a well-rounded background knowledge of psychology as well as research skills to pursue professional training in educational psychology.”

Miss Elaine Tang, Educational Psychologist
Alumna of MSocScP(SCS)
## Programme Length

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Normative study period</th>
<th>Maximum study period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time mode</td>
<td>1 year (4 courses per semester)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time mode</td>
<td>2 years (2 courses per semester)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Extension fee** will be charged to students who have to extend their studies beyond the normal study period.
- Students **MUST** graduate within the programme’s maximum study period; includes leaves of absence and repeating failed courses.
Programme Structure & Schedule

• 8 core courses, plus a Research Project and 2 elective courses OR 4 elective courses (36 credits in total)

• Courses offered on weekday evenings (6:30pm-9:20pm) and/or Saturday (end before 6:30pm)

• 3 semesters per year
  – Semester 1 (Sep - Dec)
  – Semester 2a (Jan - Apr)
  – Semester 2b (Apr - Jul)

• Medium of instruction is English

• Recognition of prior learning (limited)
  – Students who have taken equivalent courses before (at the postgraduate level; with good marks) may apply for course transfer up to 50% of credits
Programme Structure #
(See [www.eduhk.hk/msocscp](http://www.eduhk.hk/msocscp) for course descriptions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses (24 cps)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Abnormal Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Biological Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cognitive Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Human Development across the Lifespan</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Personality Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Research Methods in Psychological Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Statistical Methods in Psychological Studies</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective Courses (12 cps)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Research Project in Psychological Studies (6 cps)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Educational Psychology (3 cps)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Interpersonal Communication Skills (3 cps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Learning Theories &amp; Processes (3 cps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stress and Coping (3 cps)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

# Any aspect of the course and course offerings (including, without limitation, the content of the Course and the manner in which the Course is taught) may be subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of the University. Without limiting the right of the University to amend the course and its course offerings, it is envisaged that changes may be required due to factors such as staffing, enrolment levels, logistical arrangements and curriculum changes.
Elective Course

• Option 1: 6-credit Research Project plus two 3-credit elective courses
  – Aimed at students who wish to go on for further research-oriented study (e.g. MPhil, EP, CP), who wish to carry out independent research
  – For the Research Project:
    • Lasting for about 8 months, starting from December to July
    • Choice of supervisors (self-nominated 3 choices, supervision assignment will be made based on students’ and supervisors’ research interest and supervisors’ teaching load)
    • Design research study; write a proposal, collect data, analyze data
    • Graded on 2 poster presentations (proposal; results) & thesis (5,000-8,000 words; 50+ references)
    • Directed study mode (individual supervision)
Elective Course

• **Option 2: Four 3-credit elective courses**
  – Aimed at students who aim to apply psychological theories and research to school and community settings
  – *Also OK for HKPS membership*
  – Offered in Sem 2a and 2b
  – The elective courses include
    • Educational Psychology
    • Interpersonal Communication Skills
    • Learning Theories & Processes
    • Stress and Coping
# Courses offered in 2020-21*:

*subject to change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Sep-Dec</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>PSY6002 Human Development across the Lifespan</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>PSY6003 Research Methods in Psychological Studies</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>PSY6006 Statistical Methods in Psychological Studies</strong></td>
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<td>PSY6007 Social Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Jan-Apr</td>
<td>2a</td>
<td>PSY6004 Personality Psychology</td>
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<td><strong>PSY6008 Cognitive Psychology</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PSY6011 Research Project in Psychological Studies</strong></td>
<td>(6)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PSY6012 Educational Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PSY6056 Stress and Coping</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Apr-Jul</td>
<td>2b</td>
<td>PSY6001 Biological Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>PSY6005 Abnormal Psychology</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PSY6010 Learning Theories and Processes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PSY6011 Research Project in Psychological Studies</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PSY6055 Interpersonal Communication Skills</td>
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# Example timetable (Sem 1, 2019/20)

**THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
Faculty of Education and Human Development  
Department of Psychology  
Master of Social Sciences in Psychology (Schools and Community Settings) [MSocScP(SCS)]

**Course Schedule - Semester 1, 2019/20**  
(2 Sep - 14 Dec 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>CRN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY6002 Human Development across the Lifespan</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1830 - 2130</td>
<td>D1-LP-07</td>
<td>95226</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY6003 Research Methods in Psychological Studies</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1830 - 2130</td>
<td>D1-LP-07</td>
<td>95229</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY6006 Statistical Methods in Psychological Studies</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1830 - 2130</td>
<td>Mass Lecture: D2-LP-12, Tutorial class: D1-LP-02/E-1/F-07</td>
<td>95231 (01E), 95236 (02E)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY6007 Social Psychology</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1830 - 2130</td>
<td>D3-LP-01</td>
<td>95241</td>
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<tr>
<th>September</th>
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<td></td>
<td>PSY6003</td>
<td>PSY6006</td>
<td>PSY6002</td>
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</tbody>
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Psychological and Behavioral Sciences Laboratory
心理及行為科學實驗室 (D4-LP-04)
Site Visits to Schools and Community Settings

- Adventure-based Counselling in an outdoor training centre
- Role of an EP in a mainstream sec. school
- Guidance work in a mainstream pri. school
- Alternative Education in a private pri. school
- Intervention strategies in a community centre
Tuition Fee

• Tuition fee for 2020/21 cohort:
  — $3,750/credit ($135,000 total)
  — 3-credit bridging course for additional charge

• 10% extension fee will be charged per semester for those who study beyond the normal study period

• Non-local students are recommended to budget an additional $7,000-$12,000/month for living expenses
Scholarship

Department of Psychology **Entrance Scholarship** for Master of Social Sciences in Psychology (Schools and Community Settings)

- **Three local** and **three non-local** students regardless of full-time or part-time mode in the academic year of 2020/21 will be offered if they have successfully met the award’s requirements.

- The applicants must:
  - have attained a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of **3.4 out of 4.0** in their respective Bachelor degrees (or equivalent);
  - demonstrate evidence of **notable contribution to the schools and community settings** or relevant community service activities.
  
- Three best-performing local applicants and three best-performing non-local applicants would be selected.
Scholarship

• The Scholarship for Teachers (Pursuit of Master's Degree Programmes)
  – Hosted by the Education Bureau
  – Our programme is one of the listed and relevant study programme for application
  – Our part-time student was awarded this scholarship in 2018/19
Transportation

• Classes are held at the Tai Po campus
• Accessible by private EdUHK shuttle bus to/from University MTR station
  – Frequent shuttles run every 10-15 minutes, and take ~20 minutes to reach campus
  – Need Student ID to board
Admission Requirements

• A recognized Bachelor’s degree with good GPA

• If language of instruction of previous degree(s) was not English, applicants should fulfill one of the following minimum English proficiency requirements:
  
  – IELTS 6.0; or
  – Grade C or above in GCSE / GCE OL English; or
  – A TOEFL score of 80 (internet-based test); or
  – Other equivalent qualifications*

  *The College English Test (CET) is not accepted as an equivalent qualification.

• Completed an Introductory Psychology course at a recognized tertiary institution; if not, students are required to take the self-financed online summer Bridging Course in June (final exam: late July)
## Why take our programme?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You wish to learn about all major areas of psychology in-depth</th>
<th>You want to improve your life, relationships, and workplace with more knowledge about how our minds work</th>
<th>You wish to learn new writing, thinking, and research skills to improve your career and life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You wish to apply for the membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society or the British Psychological Society</td>
<td>You would like to change careers to become a psychologist, pursuing further education after the MSocScP(SCS)</td>
<td>You wish to learn from respected young researcher-teachers, with warm-hearted classmates, and in an academic home (EdUHK) that loves education!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applications and Contact

• Apply online
  www.eduhk.hk/msocscp

• Visit our department website to learn more about us
  www.eduhk.hk/ps/

• Like us on Facebook to see occasional research and news updates

• Contact:
  Enquiries: 2948 8544
  Fax: 2948 8454
  Email: ps@eduhk.hk

  Office Location: D1-2/F-26, The Education University of Hong Kong,
  10 Lo Ping Road, Tai Po, New Territories.