

writing later in the programme and to lay foundation for students' research in their workplaces/future study programmes. The course deals with basic research skills such as identifying a researchable area of genuine interest, framing and understanding the purpose of research questions, accessing information, locating one's own work in the scholarly literature, collecting and analysing language data, and producing written reports on research projects in acceptable formats. Students will be introduced to research in language studies and be encouraged to identify their own areas of interest. Attention will be drawn to current research methods and tools. Much of the teaching will be concerned with approaches to the collection, description and analysis of data in the field of language studies.

**LANG 7260 Dissertation (6,1,0)**

The dissertation will be the standard type and the length of it will normally be set at about 15,000 words in English, or 20,000 characters in Chinese. Proposals of dissertation topics will be submitted to and approved by the Programme Management Committee which also sets up a schedule for the completion of the MA dissertation. During the writing of their dissertations, students will be required to meet with their supervisors for one contact hour per week.

**LANG 7390 Special Topic in Language Studies (3,3,0)**

Recent years have witnessed increasing momentum in the development of all fields in the study of language. This course intends to provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas which are relevant to the concerns of the MA in Language Studies programme. It is reserved as a slot for new and welcome input which may not have been considered in the current syllabuses of the programme and which, therefore, may go beyond the scope of materials already offered. Method of assessment and textbook/required reading are to be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the Programme Director.

**LANG 7401-2 Introduction to Study of Language (3,3,0)  
I & II**

This two-semester course introduces students to five core components in linguistics: morphology, syntax, phonetics, phonology, and semantics. It will provide students with a solid grounding in fundamental concepts and methodologies of these five linguistic areas, which will enable them to tackle linguistic problems systematically and help them understand that despite superficial diversity, human languages share fundamental similarities in terms of the universal principles that govern their possible structures. This aim will be approached and achieved through exploring language data. Methods of formal analysis will be applied to data drawn from a variety of languages, with a focus on the analysis and comparison of English and Chinese. Systematic properties generalized from the analysis will be discussed in relation to their application to language teaching and other fields.

**LANG 7510 Language in Society (3,3,0)**

This course aims to introduce learners to the way language is used in social interactions. It is also about defining a very broad field which includes recognizing how individuals use different language(s) in different situations, how language use varies in different towns or regions, how governments make decisions about what language is to be used in what particular situation and how language changes over time. We will look at what causes change in language. In particular, the course enables learners to identify and analyse questions of language use in Hong Kong in an up-to-date sociolinguistic framework. Learners will look to their own work contexts and living environments as starting points for their research.

**LANG 7530 Language Curriculum (3,3,0)**

The major aims of this course are to help students understand the principles and practices in methods, course design and assessment in language teaching; to examine and critically analyse these principles and practices at different levels of language education

with special reference to the curriculum and context of Hong Kong; and to enable students to develop suitable methods, syllabuses, materials and assessment techniques for the contexts that are of immediate concern to them.

**LANG 7540 Language for Specific Purposes (3,3,0)**

This course aims to introduce students to the characteristics and variations of language use in professional settings. Students will enhance their intercultural awareness of professional language use in Hong Kong. They will be introduced to the principles, considerations and practice which underpin the teaching of Language for Specific Purposes (LSP) with reference to the Hong Kong situation. Attention will also be paid to the use of computer concordancers in language analysis and material development.

**LANG 7550 English as a World Language (3,3,0)**

This course aims at help students to acquire a new perspective on English in its totality, not as the language of a few traditional English-speaking countries but as a *de facto* "world language" with several "old" and "new" varieties which exhibit their own linguistic features and functions, and to analyse the linguistic as well as social, political, cultural and educational issues arising from the emergence of English as a world language.

**LANG 7570 Language and Education (3,3,0)**

This course aims to examine the varied relationships between language and education. It helps to explore the role that education plays in learning language, particularly in learning a second language. It develops an understanding of the characteristics of language learning in natural and educational settings and discusses issues relating to education in language classrooms.

**LANG 7580 Language Development (3,3,0)**

This course aims to deal with both first and second language acquisition, with the emphasis being on the latter. Theories of first and second language acquisition are introduced with the aim of providing students with the tools to evaluate theories in light of research and their own experience. Specific problems and important patterns of first and second language acquisition processes are compared and discussed against the background of the introduced theories. Students will have practice analysing real language data. Emphasis will also be placed on the impact of individual differences in second language acquisition.

**LANG 7590 Advanced Topics in Discourse Studies (3,3,0)**

This course aims to introduce students to an in-depth study of a particular theoretical framework or issue in the area of discourse studies. The selected topic may vary from time to time, with a focus either on a theory/framework (for example, intercultural/cross-linguistic/interlanguage pragmatics, conversation analysis, gender and discourse) or on an issue (for example, business discourse, classroom discourse, mediated discourse). Regardless of the approach or issue selected, students will be encouraged to compare and criticize the alternative approaches to the study of discourse, to collect and analyse authentic discourse data against different frameworks, and to apply the theory/framework to facilitate effective interpersonal or intercultural communication whenever possible.

**LANG 7600 Comparative Studies of English and Chinese Grammar (3,3,0)**

In this course, students will be introduced to the descriptive differences between Chinese and English from a typological perspective. By using a contrastive approach, the course aims to heighten students' sensitivity to the specific grammatical properties of these two languages.

**LANG 7610 Discourse Analysis (3,3,0)**

This course aims to deal with language above sentence (text) and beyond sentence (meaning in context) as a social and interactive process. A range of techniques and approaches to the study of discourse will be introduced, including the essential concepts of pragmatics, genre analysis, text cohesion and generic structure,

and functional analysis of clauses. The course will also examine applications of discourse analysis in cross-cultural (mainly Chinese and English) settings and in educational settings (i.e. teacher-student interaction in the classroom).

**LANG 7630 Pragmatics in Language Learning and Teaching (3,3,0)**

The aims of the course are to enable students to study and analyse how language users find socially appropriate language for the contexts they encounter and what the rules of language use are; to raise their pragmatic awareness; and to explore ways to learn and teach pragmatic competence in English language classrooms, with particular reference to the Hong Kong context.

**LANG 7640 Grammar of Modern English (3,3,0)**

The course aims to help students acquire a systematic and up-to-date knowledge of the grammar of modern English from a corpus-based, objective and descriptive point of view, with an added focus on its practical and pedagogic applications.

**LANG 7650 Advanced Seminar in Language and Gender (3,3,0)**

The course offers an introduction to some of the major differences in the language of men and women, boys and girls; discusses possible causes and consequences of these differences and develops students' research skills in language and gender. A wide range of current issues in the academic field of language and gender will be presented, and different approaches to analysing the impact of gender in both spoken and written texts will be discussed. Cultural variation will also be in focus. The emphasis will be on developing the students' awareness and critical thinking of gender in their own experiences of language use and learning, as well as applying their knowledge to educational contexts. Besides working on assigned materials, students will be asked to collect and analyse their own data, using the theoretical frameworks from the course.

**LANG 7660 Linguistics and Liberal Thinking (3,3,0)**

This course aims to provide students with a clear conception on the thinking processes behind theorizing in language studies in relation to a number of real-life situations as well as to other disciplines in both the humanities and the sciences. Students will thus gain broad awareness of the tools and strategies that are useful academically and practically, especially in the area of teaching liberal studies in the Hong Kong secondary school classroom. The course will develop in the students a critical awareness on how to evaluate knowledge and beliefs, thus making it a foundational course in fostering independent thinking in language students. Through this course, students should be able to see in a more informed and profound way the relevance of language studies to everyday life.

**LAW 2010 Commercial Law (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: BUS 2170 Principles of Law

This course provides students with a firm understanding of the basic principles of commercial law so that they will have the necessary legal knowledge to operate efficiently in today's business world.

**LAW 2020 Hong Kong Legal System (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: BUS 2170 Principles of Law

This course builds on students' knowledge acquired from BUS 1170 Principles of Law. It covers various topics at substantially greater depth. Students will acquire firm knowledge of the major components and concepts of the Hong Kong legal system. They will have a solid foundation to study the remaining law subjects leading to the LMU LLB.

**LAW 3010 Hong Kong Constitutional Law (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: BUS 2170 Principles of Law

This course builds on students' knowledge acquired from LAW

2020 Hong Kong Legal System. Students will acquire firm knowledge of the history of Hong Kong's constitutional law since 1842, leading to the present judicial, political and administrative systems. The framework, interpretation and amendment of the Basic Law will be studied. Finally, Hong Kong's position in the international arena as well as the constitutional system of China will be studied.

**LAW 3020 Hong Kong Land Law (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: BUS 2170 Principles of Law

Students will study the types of land ownership in both urban and rural Hong Kong, the multi-storey land ownership which is characteristic of Hong Kong, and the Lands Titles Ordinance which will introduce a title registration system in Hong Kong.

**LAW 3030 Business Associations Law (2,3,0)**

Prerequisites: BUS 2170 Principles of Law and BUS 3230 Company Law

This course continues where BUS 3230 Company Law ends. It provides students with a firm understanding of the basic principles of the law on the most popular business vehicles in the business world today. It then continues to explore advanced topics on company law to consolidate students' knowledge acquired from BUS 3230 Company Law.

**LCS 2110 Artistic Creativity and Art Appreciation (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to promote understanding of artistic creativity as one of the best inventions of the human mind. Students will learn to understand human artistic inventions contextually by integrating disparate theories and interpretations of art. It will equip students with knowledge of Chinese and Western art theories, the history of artistic expressions and the social application of art, through which students will be prepared to appreciate and review masterpieces of art critically in an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural manner.

**LCS 2120 Introduction to World Civilization (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce the different approaches in understanding different civilizations, their encounter, interaction and conflicts. It will first introduce the different theories of understanding world civilizations, e.g. their characteristics, strength and weakness, and their grandeur and decline. It will also discuss, with illustration of literary work and films examples, interaction and conflict between civilizations, e.g. China and the West, Christian and Muslim, the "discovery" of America, etc. It will serve as an introductory course for cultural studies by providing basic knowledge and methods in the study of culture and civilization.

**LCS 2130 Love and Humanities (3,\*,\*)**

This course approaches one of the most difficult questions of the human condition, "What is love?", from philosophical, historical and anthropological perspectives. Students will acquire an understanding of Western and cross-cultural theories of love. They will apply this understanding to contemporary cultural and social phenomena and critically respond to them. The course also creates and strengthens students' interest in life histories with diverse cultural backgrounds as references for personal growth.

**LCS 2210 The Classical Heritage (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce the foundations of Western culture, i.e. the ancient Greek and Roman culture. It helps students comprehend and appreciate the various aspects of classical culture, i.e. from art, literature, history and politics, and their significance for the modern Western world. It serves not only as a perfect introduction to the foundation of Western civilization, but also provides a sound basis for the development of the student's cultural literacy and sensibility. In addition, the course will also discuss classical Chinese heritage of the similar period, i.e. the pre-Qin culture so that the students may gain a comparative perspective. It will serve as an introductory course for cultural