

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF GOVERNANCE AND POLICY (MGP)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

These regulations apply to candidates admitted to the Master of Governance and Policy in the academic year 2026-27 and thereafter.

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

MGP 1. Admissions requirements

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Governance and Policy, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
 - (b) shall hold
 - (i) a Bachelor's degree of this University; or
 - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
 - (c) who are seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b);
 - (d) preferably have a minimum of three years of professional working experience; and
 - (e) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.
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MGP 2. Qualifying examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.
 - (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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MGP 3. Award of degree

To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Governance and Policy, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
 - (b) shall complete the programme as prescribed in the syllabuses and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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MGP 4. Period of study

- (a) The curriculum shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study.
 - (b) Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of two academic years of full-time study unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies of the School.
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MGP 5. Advanced Standing

Advanced Standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum. Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted. The number of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of Studies of the School, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate; and
 - (b) credits granted for Advanced Standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of Studies of the School but recorded on the transcript of the candidate.
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MGP 6. Exemption

- (a) Candidates may be exempted, with or without special conditions attached, from the requirement prescribed in the regulations and syllabuses governing the curriculum with the approval of the Board of Studies of the School, except in the case of a capstone experience.
 - (b) Approval for exemption of a capstone experience may be granted only by the Senate with good reasons. Candidates who are so exempted must replace the number of exempted credits with courses of the same credit value.
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MGP 7. Completion of curriculum

To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
 - (b) follow the courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed work of courses as prescribed in the syllabuses;
 - (c) shall complete and present a satisfactory capstone project as prescribed in the syllabuses;
 - (d) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of assessment; and
 - (e) have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above.
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MGP 8. Capstone project

- (a) Subject to provision of Regulation MGP7(c), the title of the capstone project shall be submitted for approval by not later than December 15 of the final academic year in which the teaching programme ends and the capstone project shall be presented by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses.
 - (b) Candidates shall submit a statement that the capstone project represents their own work after registration as candidates for the degree.
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MGP 9. Assessment

- (a) Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits;
- (b) Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a passing grade for the purpose of upgrading;
- (c) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners at their first attempt in not more than half of the number of courses to be examined, whether by means of written examination papers or coursework assessment, during any of the academic years of study, may be permitted to make up for the failed course(s) in the following manner:
 - (i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course at a specified subsequent date;
 - (ii) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction;
 - (iii) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments;or
 - (iv) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements;
- (d) Subject to the provision of Regulation MGP7(c), candidates who have failed to present a satisfactory capstone project may be permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation or capstone project within a specified period;
- (e) Candidates who are unable because of their illness to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provision made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly;
- (f) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment; and
- (g) Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they:
 - (i) are not permitted to present themselves for re-assessment/re-examination in any failed course(s) or to repeat the failed course(s) or take another course in lieu under Regulation MGP9(c); or
 - (ii) have failed to satisfy the examiners in any course(s) at a second attempt; or
 - (iii) are not permitted to submit a new or revised capstone project under Regulation MGP9(d); or

- (iv) have failed to submit a satisfactory new or revised capstone project under Regulation MGP9(d); or
 - (v) have exceeded the maximum period of registration.
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MGP 10. Grading system

Individual course shall be graded according to the following grading systems:

- (a) Letter grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment as follows:

Grade	Standard	Grade Point
A+	Excellent	4.3
A		4.0
A-		3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B		3.0
B-		2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C		2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

or

- (b) “Pass” or “Fail”
(Courses graded according to (b) shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA)
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MGP 11. Classification of awards

On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates’ degree diploma.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF GOVERNANCE AND POLICY (MGP)

These regulations apply to candidates admitted to the Master of Governance and Policy in the academic year 2026-27 and thereafter.

The School of Governance and Policy offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Governance and Policy. The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study.

CURRICULUM

To complete the Master of Governance and Policy programme, candidates are required to complete a total of 66 credits. This comprises 36 credits of compulsory courses, 18 credits of elective courses, and a 12-credit capstone project. The compulsory courses provide a comprehensive and integrated foundation in governance and policy, while the elective courses offer an interdisciplinary perspective on a variety of topics and contemporary issues in public policy. The capstone project allows candidates to gain practical experience and undertake evidence-based policy analysis on a selected topic.

Compulsory Courses

Candidates shall complete all compulsory courses of the following list:

- MGAP7001. Public Governance and Policy Implementation: Comparative Perspective (6 credits)
- MGAP7002. Economics Lessons from Turning Points and Crises (6 credits)
- MGAP7003. Trust, Governance and Leadership (6 credits)
- MGAP7004. Chinese Leadership and Governance (6 credits)
- MGAP7005. Geoeconomics in a Multipolar World (6 credits)
- MGAP7006. Political Ethics in China and the World: Ancient and Modern Perspectives on Public Policy (6 credits)

Elective Courses

Candidates shall complete at least three elective courses from the following lists, with at least one elective course elected from Method and Data Analysis:

Method and Data Analysis

- ECON6095. Programme Evaluation for Policy Makers (6 credits)
- MPOP7004. Methods for Policy Evaluation (6 credits)
- MGAP7101. Policy Analysis and Microeconomic Theory (6 credits)

Climate Change

- CGRM7105. Climate Change Law (6 credits)
- CGRM7106. Sustainable Urban Planning and Green Building (6 credits)

Social and Cultural Policy

- SOCI8028. Cultural Policies and Global Cities (6 credits)
- SOWK6217. Current Social Welfare Policy Issues (6 credits)
- MGAP7102. The Aging Mind: Neuroscience-informed Policy for Cognitive and Mental Health (6 credits)

Monetary Policy

ECON6010. Monetary Policy: Theory and Practice (6 credits)

MGAP7103. Economic Policy and the World Economy (6 credits)

Artificial Intelligence

MGAP7104. Introduction to Geopolitics, AI and Technology (6 credits)

Global Governance

MGAP7105. International Political Economy: Global Collaboration and Leadership in a Rapidly Changing World Order (6 credits)

MGAP7106. Global Macro Policy and Governance (6 credits)

Field Trip

MGAP7201. Experiential Learning in Asia and the World (6 credits)

Capstone Project

Candidates shall complete the following capstone experience course:

MGAP8001. Capstone Project (12 credits)

Not all the courses listed in the syllabuses will necessarily be offered each academic year.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Compulsory Courses

MGAP7001. Public Governance and Policy Implementation: Comparative Perspective (6 credits)

The governmental sector constitutes a substantial portion of a nation's GDP. This course offers a systematic understanding of public sector governance, policy design, implementation, accountability, and innovation. We will examine the division of governmental responsibility between the national and subnational levels, public-private partnership, innovative strategies, selective policy instruments, and public participation in the decision-making process. The course will draw on analytical perspectives in social sciences, policy studies, and reports by governmental, global, research organizations to examine how public policy is designed and implemented and the extent to which they meet intended policy goals.

We will critically review the effectiveness of governance in particular settings, using concrete initiatives in both domestic and global policy domains. How does government make decisions? How do we assess governing capabilities and performance? How do local, state, and national government coordinate their policy responsibilities? What role do non-governmental stakeholders play? What policy instruments does government utilize to foster accountability, innovation, and equity? What works in public agencies?

In addressing these questions, students in this course will develop an understanding and the skills to identify, communicate, and analyse the structure and process of public governance. This course will critically review the structure and dynamics of the system of governance from a comparative perspective, differentiating between federal and unitary systems. Students will apply analytical approaches to examine the implementation of governing practices and policy strategies in specific context. Throughout the course, we will invite experienced policy practitioners to share their insights.

Assessment: 100% coursework

MGAP7002. Economics Lessons from Turning Points and Crises (6 credits)

Course instruction will use the case study method to achieve the above learning outcomes by identifying microeconomic and macroeconomic principles and familiarising students with the application of economic analysis to practice. The case studies will be drawn from economic development experiences around the world, and several large disruptive economic crises that occurred after 1970.

Students in this course come different disciplinary background and have varied professional experiences. Instruction in the course will therefore also contain tailored summary versions of the relevant economic theory and econometric techniques that would allow students to have adequate analytical mastery to assess the technical soundness of the literature that students are required to read.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination

MGAP7003. Trust, Governance and Leadership (6 credits)

The course introduces concepts, methods, and theories for understanding trust, governance, and leadership. Conceptually, it defines trust in terms of expectation, hope, and faith, governance in terms of order, cooperation, and justice, and leadership in terms of vision, strategy, and tactics. Methodologically, it demonstrates the utilities and limitations of qualitative interpretation, quantitative exploration, and AI-empowered analytic techniques. Theoretically, it discusses mechanisms of interaction between trust, governance, and leadership in historical, social, and cultural contexts. Practically, it assists students in cultivating their abilities to earn sincere trust, practice fair governance, and develop effective leadership.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

MGAP7004. Chinese Leadership and Governance (6 credits)

Crucial to any analysis of China's modernization and future development is an understanding of the kind of leadership that governs the country, both domestically and on the global stage. Throughout the history of the People's Republic of China (PRC), changes in the composition of the political elite have often reflected — and sometimes heralded — broader socio-political, economic, technological, and ideological transformations. This course provides students with a broad introduction to Chinese leadership and governance, and how it navigates and shapes

global governance structures. Topics to be covered include the Chinese leadership structure, the characteristics of the party-state, the dynamics between individuals and institutions, the channels of elite recruitment, the educational and occupational characteristics of Chinese officials, and the relationship between various elite groups (political, economic, intellectual, societal and military). The course also examines China's evolving role in global governance through its participation and representation in major international organizations

These topics are not just essential to the study of China but are also profoundly relevant to the social sciences in general. No prior study of Chinese leadership is required, although those who have training in Chinese culture, politics, and history are most welcome. Upon completing the course, students will have developed an analytical framework for understanding Chinese leadership in both domestic governance and global governance arenas. They will also have the tools to compare elite competition, decision-making and global strategy in China with other countries.

Assessment: 80% coursework, 20% examination

MGAP7005. Geoeconomics in a Multipolar World (6 credits)

In this course, we will discuss the basic macroeconomic models and cutting-edge research about the wealth of nations, global economic relationships, as well as the rising inequality within and between countries. In each topic, we will specifically discuss how China has grown and developed to its current economic level and the implications for the changing global geoeconomic situations. The course aims to help you understand the dynamics of China's evolving governance/growth model and its changing relationships with other countries.

Topics discussed in the course include how decentralization of economic management to local governments and the private sector turned China into a global manufacturing powerhouse, how investment in infrastructure first domestically and then abroad have enhanced connectivity between countries, people, and companies, and thus raising its own productivity and those of others. Its liberalization of goods and financial markets also led to rapid urbanization and growth on the one hand, but also created new challenges and risks such as corruption, environmental degradation, inequality, excessive debts, over-capacity, bubbles in asset markets, as well as its relationship with other countries in particular the United States.

Assessment: 100% coursework

MGAP7006. Political Ethics in China and the World: Ancient and Modern Perspectives on Public Policy (6 credits)

This course introduces the most original and influential debates in classical Chinese political theory and compares them with debates from other political contexts. Students will be encouraged to think about the implications of Confucianism, Legalism, Daoism, and Mohism for modern day challenges such as just war, corruption in government, family law, and to what extent, if any, the government should provide funding for culture and the arts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Elective Courses

MGAP7101. Policy Analysis and Microeconomic Theory (6 credits)

This course applies microeconomic theory to analysis of public policy. It draws on microeconomic theory to understand why markets sometimes fail. The course considers the casual effects of policy interventions on economic outcomes. Policy topics may include minimum wages and employment, social welfare, risk and safety regulation, education, and international trade.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

MGAP7102. The Aging Mind: Neuroscience-informed Policy for Cognitive and Mental Health (6 credits)

This policy-oriented graduate course examines how cognitive and brain science research can inform evidence-based policies to promote mental health and cognitive vitality in aging populations. Students will learn to translate cutting-edge findings in brain aging into practical policy solutions that address cognitive health, mental wellbeing, and social integration across diverse community settings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

MGAP7103. Economic Policy and the World Economy (6 credits)

This course covers key economic policies in the major economies of the world. Focus will be on policies that have direct and pervasive impacts on the global economy, such as U.S. monetary and financial policies, and policies that greatly affect domestic economic development such that they serve as references for other economies and future policies, e.g., industrial policy in South Korea. Other cases that are informative include market integration and monetary union in Europe, policies to inflate the economy in Japan, trade and manufacturing policies in India, macroeconomic policies and their failure in Latin America, policy comparison between Hong Kong and Singapore, the Middle East in the transition from old to new energy, and infrastructure building in Africa. The China economy and polices will be discussed tangentially to avoid duplication with other courses. Policies on technology and climate change that are of recent concerns will be examined in the context of the global economy. The course emphasizes economic analysis behind the policies and those issues with profound geoeconomic implications.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

MGAP7104. Introduction to Geopolitics, AI and Technology (6 credits)

This course provides an accessible yet critical introduction to the dynamic intersections between geopolitics, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies. Students will examine

how technological innovation, especially in AI, reshapes power relations, influences national security, and impacts global governance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

MGAP7105. International Political Economy: Global Collaboration and Leadership in a Rapidly Changing World Order (6 credits)

The study of international relations has long emphasized Eurocentric concerns and security-related issues. From the decades of the Cold War through recent years, the international flow of products, capital, technology and labour has been relegated to the domain of “low” politics. In contrast, “high” politics includes national security, arms race, and the formation of alliances. The rapid rise of Asian economies and other developing countries in the Global South, along with common challenges such as growing economic protectionism, climate change, epidemics, and AI, has called for a fundamental shift in global affairs. There is now greater attention to emerging issues and to the increasing importance of different geographic regions.

This course is designed to introduce students to the nature, trends, and problems of the international political economy (IPE). It focuses on East and Southeast Asia – two interconnected subregions that form one of the most dynamic areas of the world. This course explores how countries in the region respond to rapid economic and technological changes in the 21st century. Students will explore how government policies shape development trajectories, analyse the relationship between market economics and governance systems, and investigate the cultural and societal impacts of industrialization. The curriculum also addresses rising anti-globalization movements and assesses how the growing geopolitical influence of these Asian subregions is redefining global power structures. In studying these questions, this course will examine key theories and assumptions about the international political economy.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

MGAP7106. Global Macro Policy and Governance (6 credits)

This course offers a broad survey of the key issues, concepts, and institutions underpinning the global economy, tailored for students preparing for roles in international policy and finance. Fully coursework-based, the class emphasizes active learning through student presentations, projects, and hands-on data analysis. Guest speakers from organizations such as the IMF, World Bank, and investment banks will provide real-world perspectives on global economic governance and challenges. Students will explore topics including global developments and outlooks, the roles of major international organizations, balance of payments, growth accounting, and the economic rise of China. The curriculum also covers business cycles, modern monetary and fiscal policy, exchange rate management, and case studies of financial crises and sovereign debt restructuring. The course culminates in student presentations of final projects, equipping participants with the practical skills, analytical tools, and institutional understanding required for effective participation in global economic discussions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

MGAP7201. Experiential Learning in Asia and the World (6 credits)

Experiential Learning in Asia and the World offers students a unique opportunity to engage directly with pressing social, economic, and policy issues across diverse global contexts. Each year, participants embark on an immersive trip to one or two countries in Asia or beyond during reading week, where they interact with local communities, NGOs, enterprises, and policymakers. Through thematic seminars led by guest experts, hands-on workshops, and field visits, students critically examine topics such as governance, innovation, sustainability, and regional cooperation. This dynamic, place-based approach enables participants to gain first-hand insights into local solutions and challenges, fostering a deeper understanding of global interconnections and preparing them to contribute thoughtfully to contemporary issues in Asia and the wider world.

The field trip is scheduled for Reading Week (March) in the second semester. At the beginning of the first semester, surveys will be conducted to gather information about students' academic interests and preferred topics. Thematic seminars will be offered in advance to support students' preparation. Please note that students are responsible for covering their own travel and accommodation expenses for the field trip.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ECON6010. Monetary Policy: Theory and Practice (6 credits)

This course traces the evolution of central banks over the last 200 years from primitive financial clearing-houses to promoters of macroeconomic stability and growth as a natural progression as policymakers sought to combat various challenges to macroeconomic stability, such as inflation and systemic financial risk. The course will discuss different monetary policy regimes, including currency boards and inflation targeting, and the inherent trade-offs between them, focusing especially on the importance of credibility and expectations. Optimal monetary policy design and the monetary transmission mechanism will also be covered.

Assessment is normally conducted in the form of coursework assessment (40-100%) and examinations (0-60%), unless otherwise specified by the course instructor.

ECON6095. Programme Evaluation for Policy Makers (6 credits)

This course is about the analysis of data within economics and the interpretation of empirical results. The course will provide a practical introduction to econometric techniques and analytical methods commonly used in modern empirical research, such as matching, difference-in-differences, instrumental variables or regression discontinuity designs.

Assessment is normally conducted in the form of coursework assessment (40-100%) and examinations (0-60%), unless otherwise specified by the course instructor.

MPOP7004. Methods for Policy Evaluation (6 credits)

This module offers a deep dive into the intricate world of evaluating population policies, employing cutting-edge quantitative causal inference methods with both experimental and non-experimental data. Students will grapple with fundamental questions: How can we rigorously assess the impact of policies or events? How do we discern causal relationships within observational data? The course extensively employs real-world examples to elucidate various statistical methods for causal inference, encompassing Rubin's Causal Model, regression fundamentals, standard error calculations, analysing naturally occurring "quasi-experiments", instrumental variable estimation, difference-in-differences estimation, and regression discontinuity design. Students will gain hands-on experience, mastering these techniques to conduct robust and insightful evaluations of population policies and programs. Throughout the course we will use the R statistical software to carry out calculations and visualise our results.

Assessment: 100% coursework

SOCI8028. Cultural Policies and Global Cities (6 credits)

This course covers three different scopes of cultural policy, beginning with government supports for the arts, then the invention of creative industry policies and finally cultural citizenship. There has been an international trend of introducing entrepreneurialism into cultural policies in recent decades. Policies, involving both the government and civic organizations thus are formulated in order to enhance the competitiveness of nations and cities through various cultural projects. Global cities such as London, New York, Paris, Brussels, and Tokyo are seen to be capable of assuming a leading role in the cultural development and promotion of urban entrepreneurialism. This course examines comparatively how different policies evolve under different social and historical conditions, and how global cities redevelop their urban and cultural resources in order to sharpen their competitiveness in the context of the intercity competition of a global economy, and explores how such experiences could be applied to Hong Kong. Topics to be covered in this course include entrepreneurialism, strategies of urban redevelopment, urban culture, and urban competitiveness. Students will also reflect on the problems associated with cultural, urban and creative development.

Assessment: 100% coursework

SOWK6217. Current Social Welfare Policy Issues (6 credits)

This course provides a framework of analysing and formulating social policy in the current social, political and economic environment. Current social welfare policy issues including social welfare planning mechanisms, welfare blue print, strategic framework for social welfare, district planning, and other relevant issues will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CGRM7105. Climate Change Law (6 credits)

This course addresses the process of climate law formation by interactions between movement building, the private sector, and government law-writing, with a particular focus on equity and just transition concepts affecting the formation of law. The course considers how litigation is one tool among many involved in the formation of climate law. It investigates the political and organizing forces that create the law, and the way lawyers (including students) might work with them. It starts with the interactions between litigation, legislation, and political negotiation and then builds to more specific climate law examples. The course is intended to be complementary to Climate Change Litigation: Practice and Theory.

Assessment is normally conducted in the form of coursework assessment (40-100%) and examinations (0-60%), unless otherwise specified by the course instructor.

CGRM7106. Sustainable Urban Planning and Green Building (6 credits)

The concepts of urban sustainability are driving the regulation of the built form of our increasingly large, complex and smart cities. The global sustainable development goals have also led urban regulators to embrace more participatory and innovative forms of governance for our society and economy. This course explores how those concepts apply in the regulation of planning and construction and the framework and governance for the development of smart, resilient and sustainable cities. In particular, it will focus on the role of local policies in achieving liveable communities. The course will cover the Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Local Planning Policies and consider whether planning regulation in Hong Kong incorporates best practice in environmental assessment. It will explore the interesting tension between building and planning law and the respective contribution of each in driving sustainable outcomes. Another component of this course will follow the introduction of building information modelling (BIM) arising out of the architecture, engineering and construction management sectors. This topic offers a further but alternate perspective of shifting regulatory dynamics that pitch towards sustainability objectives, whether on built environment projects or across broad-scaled applications.

Assessment is normally conducted in the form of coursework assessment (40-100%) and examinations (0-60%), unless otherwise specified by the course instructor.

Capstone Project

MGAP8001. Capstone Project (12 credits)

The capstone course offers students an engaging, on-the-ground learning opportunity to apply policy concepts, theories, and tools from other governance and policy courses to address current issues in governance and policy at the local, national, or global level. Under the guidance of School faculty, students will spend a total of 280 hours on the capstone project across two semesters.

Students have two options. Option One is to conduct a research-based thesis on a current topic in governance and/or policy. A faculty advisor will supervise the student to define the research

topic and questions, connect to the relevant literature, specify the research design, and collect, organize, and analysis data. The written research-based thesis will be 15,000 to 20,000 words.

Option Two is to apply theories or concepts to a policy project based on their career goal and interest. With support from School faculty, students will partner with a sponsoring organization to develop a project implementation plan, including project goals, tasks, evidence gathering, deliverables, and timeline. Students will analyze the evidence and develop policy recommendations that align with the needs of the sponsoring organization. Finally, students will submit to the sponsoring organization and the School faculty a written policy memo. The policy memo will be 3,000 words, highlighting project goals, key findings, and policy recommendations.

In both Options One and Two, students will deliver a 20-minute formal presentation in late April or early May to the School community.

Assessment: 100% coursework
