Subject Description Form

<table>
<tr><td>Subject Code</td><td>BME5156</td></tr>
<tr><td>Subject Title</td><td>Dissertation</td></tr>
<tr><td>Credit Value</td><td>9</td></tr>
<tr><td>Level</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td>Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion</td><td>Student must successfully complete at least 9 credits of subjects; and
Student must attain a GPA of 3.20 or above

*Special notes to students: Consent of Project Supervisor and endorsement of Dissertation Coordinator should be obtained BEFORE subject registration.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objectives</td><td>To develop analytical and research skills to incorporate evidence-based practice in the industry of healthcare</td></tr>
<tr><td>Intended Learning Outcomes</td><td>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:
a. demonstrate an understanding of relevant literature in the topic area selected;
b. pursue an in-depth examination of a selected topic area of interest in health care, and relevant to the student's own work situation;
c. demonstrate an ability to set the topic in its wider context, to sustain argument, and to present conclusions related to practice implications in health care practices in Hong Kong;
d. make integrative linkages between theoretical concepts and practical/clinical experience;
e. develop critical thinking and analytic evaluation skills through planning and implementing a research project, and evaluating the outcome in a systematic way and to a professional standard;
f. develop and deepen their interest and awareness in on-going research in health care areas of their own interest by sensitizing themselves to their dual role as researchers and health care practitioners.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</td><td>There is no set syllabus for the dissertation. The student may select, plan and conduct a research project relating to any area in health care, subject to the availability of supervisors and their research interests and background. The research area should be in line with the student's overall design of his/her chosen programme of study and choice of subjects.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Teaching/Learning Methodology</td><td>A topic for research will be mutually agreed upon between the student and the supervisor. The student will read widely on the scientific issues and, in specific areas, also in depth under the guidance of the supervisor. Students may be arranged into small groups and share their information in presentations.
<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Teaching/learning methodology</td><td colspan="6">Intended subject learning outcomes</td></tr>
<tr><td>a</td><td>b</td><td>c</td><td>d</td><td>e</td><td>f</td></tr>
<tr><td>1. Guided study</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Presentations</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td><td>√</td></tr>
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</td></tr>
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Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed					
		a	b	c	d	e	f
1.Progress	20 %	√	√				√
2. Report	50 %			√	√	√	
3. Oral presentation	30 %			√	√	√	
Total	100 %						

The assessment panel will jointly allocate a grade guided by the above weightings which may vary depending on the nature of the project. Individual awards may modify key items and the recommended weightings according to the needs of each award.

The dissertation must reflect sufficient evidence of independent work to justify the award at the Master's level, and, preferably be job and profession related. It must be a topic related to the programme area of study in which the student is enrolled. As there is no single universal definition of what constitutes a Master's dissertation, the Dissertation Assessment Panel has the responsibility to decide whether the dissertation reaches the necessary level.

The dissertation must satisfy the Dissertation Assessment Panel in the following:

- adequate knowledge of the chosen research topic;
- understanding of the issues and developments in the research topic;
- mastery of research procedures and design, techniques of data collection;
- mastery of appropriate analytical procedures and appropriate interpretation; and
- evidence of scientific validity.

Student Study Effort Expected

Class contact:	
□ Tutorials	19.5 Hrs.
□ Progress presentations & seminars	3.5Hrs.
Other student study effort:	
□ Literature review, research design, data collection, data analysis, preparation of proposal presentation and report	397 Hrs.
Total student study effort	420 Hrs.

Reading List and References

Lyons, Peter. The dissertation: from beginning to end. New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Miller A.B. Finish your dissertation once and for all!: How to overcome psychological barriers, get results and move on with your life. Washington D.C.: American Psychological Association, 2009.

Biggam J. Succeeding with your master's dissertation: a step-by-step handbook. Maidenhead: Open University, 2008.

Cottrell R.R. Health promotion and education research methods; using the five chaper thesis/dissertation model. Sudbury, Mass: Joanes and Bartlett Publishers, 2011

Atkinson J., Crowe M. Interdisciplinary research: diverse approaches in science, technology, health and society. Chichester, England; Hoboken NJ: John Wiley & Sons 2006.