HOST DEPARTMENT

Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

CONTRIBUTING DEPARTMENTS

- Department of Applied Mathematics
- Department of Applied Social Sciences
- Department of Biomedical Engineering
- Department of Health Technology and Informatics
- Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies
- Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Nursing
- School of Optometry

MODE OF STUDY

Mixed-mode (full-time or part-time)

DURATION

Normal duration: 3 years (full-time); 4 years (part-time)

Students will have to seek approval if they have to extend the study period beyond the normal duration.

RECOMMENDED STUDY PLAN

(For reference only)

Full-time

	First Semester	Second Semester	Summer Term
First Year	4 Subjects + AIE Subject	4 Subjects	Optional
Second Year	Thesis	Thesis	
Third Year	Thesis	Thesis	

Part-time

	First Semester	Second Semester	Summer Term
First Year	2 Subjects	2 Subjects + AIE Subject	Optional
Second Year	2 Subjects	2 Subjects	
Third Year	Thesis	Thesis	
Fourth Year	Thesis	Thesis	

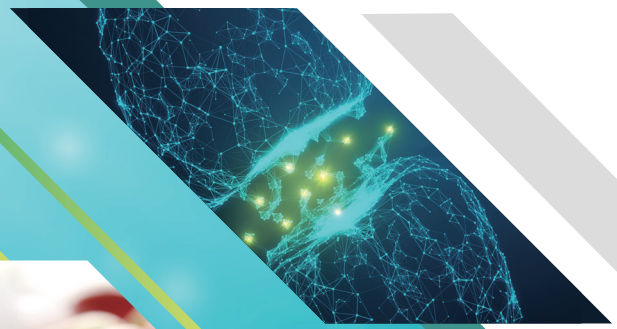
THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

醫療及社會科學院
Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Doctor of Health Science

Programme Code: 06001

The First Choice Professional Doctoral Programme for Health Care Professionals



ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree in a health-related discipline, or equivalent; AND
- At least 5 years of substantial professional health care experience
  (Candidates possessing a recognised first degree in a health-related discipline with substantial professional experience may also be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

Note: Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a panel interview.

TUITION FEE

Please refer to the website.

ENQUIRIES

https://www.polyu.edu.hk/fhss/study/postgraduate/dhsc

The DHSc programme aims to prepare health care professionals for leadership roles in substantive specialised areas and who will contribute to the science and practice of health care through systematic enquiry and theory application.

PROGRAMME CHARACTERISTICS

- Hong Kong's only professional doctorate with a primary focus on health sciences and health services
- Synthesises and integrates knowledge from different health sciences and other academic disciplines for professional application
- Designed to accommodate individual students' research interests and career aspirations
- Recognised as a terminal professional degree for health care disciplines, with graduates able to use the title "Dr" before their names

AWARDS

Students can choose to graduate with the **Doctor of Health Science (generic award) or** with one of the following **specialism awards**:

- **Medical Laboratory Science***
- **Medical Imaging and Radiation Science***
- **Nursing**
- **Occupational Therapy***
- **Optometry***
- **Physiotherapy***
- **Prosthetics and Orthotics**

** Quotable qualifications*

To be eligible for the specialism award concerned, students should:

- complete a thesis related to that specialism plus a 3-credit specialty subject; AND
- hold a Bachelor's degree or a Master's degree in a relevant discipline or possess relevant professional qualification to fulfil the registration requirements of certain professions.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programme consists of **9 subjects** (4 +1 compulsory subjects and 4 elective subjects) and **a doctoral thesis**.

Compulsory Subjects (12 + 1 credits)

To complete:

- Academic Integrity and Ethics (Health and Social Sciences) (AIE, 1 credit) *plus*

4 out of the following subjects. If students complete more than 4 of these subjects, extra subjects will be counted as elective subjects.

- Advanced Quantitative Methods
- Evidence Based Practice
- Health Care Ethics
- Health Economics
- Health Systems: Management and Organization
- Issues in Health Sociology

Elective Subjects (12 credits)

To complete 4 Elective Subjects.
The Electives can be Generic Electives or Specialty Subjects.

A. Generic Electives

- Advanced Statistics in Health Care Research
- Advanced Methods in Qualitative Health Care Research
- Concept Analysis in Health Care
- Health and Social Policy Analysis
- Independent Study in a Substantive Specialty
- Information Technology in Health Care
- Innovations in Learning and Teaching for Healthcare Education *(can also be taken as a specialty subject for students who intend to pursue for the nursing specialism)*
- Project Management
- Other Elective Options
  (To be decided in consultation with the Programme Leader)

B. Specialty Subjects

(Please refer to the programme website for the most updated list of subjects.)

Thesis (24 credits)

The thesis will comprise a single piece of work equivalent to 8 doctoral subjects and is expected to be a viable demonstration of the student's ability to apply theoretical and practical knowledge to the solution of a significant problem. In preparing the thesis, the student has an opportunity to conduct research that draws upon particular themes of the programme and show the extent to which s/he has been able to integrate some of the dominant themes and interest areas of the programme.

Students are expected to apply state-of-the-art research methodology to investigate important issues arising from societal needs, and the thesis must make an important contribution to the existing body of knowledge in and/or provide innovative insights into health science. The work is expected to be of a standard acceptable for publication by a peer-reviewed professional outlet by the time of thesis submission. A chief supervisor can be identified from the Faculty's strong pool of expertise for guiding the student in his/her thesis preparation and process.