

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	FSN6505
Subject Title	Independent Studies in Food Science and Management
Credit Value	3
Level	6
Exclusion	Nil
Objectives	When a student is interested in studying a Food Science and Management area/ topic not covered in any elective subject, this subject allows the student to explore it under the guidance of a staff advisor with expertise in this area. This subject contributes to achieving the DFMS outcome like an elective subject but in a guided-study mode.
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. identify critical issues that could be considered as the potential research directions based on the chosen topic; b. conduct a comprehensive literature review and develop an in-depth understanding of the theories and/or research methods associated with the chosen topic;
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<p>The student and the academic advisor will decide the area to be studied. The work will require the student to conduct an in-depth literature review on a particular academic topic.</p> <p>Before commencing this independent study, the participant must prepare a brief outline of the proposed study and obtain permission from the Programme Director.</p> <p>The individual paper should generally be around 3,000–5,000 words.</p>
Teaching/ Learning Methodology	The student who chooses to do an independent study will work directly with a faculty member who agrees to act as an advisor. The advisor will be an expert in the agreed study area and provide the student with guiding instruction. The student must produce a high-quality study report with the advisor's guidance.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/ tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)		
			a	b	
	Continuous Assessment*	100			
	1. Individual paper [#]	100	✓	✓	
	Total	100			
	<p><i>*Weighting of assessment methods/ tasks in continuous assessment may be different, subject to each subject lecturer.</i></p> <p><i>[#]Depending on the project, students can extend this subject to 2 semesters, regardless of whether it is a regular or summer semester.</i></p> <p>To pass this subject, students are required to obtain a Grade D or above in the overall subject grade.</p> <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>After the student has identified a topic, he/ she is guided by the advisor to read related materials, articles and journal papers in order to understand the topic area. As such, the best way to assess the student is to ask him/ her to write a summary report on the topic so that the advisor can judge how well the student understands the topic.</p>				
Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:				
	▪ Guided study		30 Hrs.		
	Other student study effort:				
	▪ Preparation for guided study		30 Hrs.		
	▪ Preparation for project and research		60 Hrs.		
	Total student study effort		120 Hrs.		
Reading List and References	This will vary according to the topic. Usually, the student will be required to review the literature associated with the topic extensively studied.				