



Department of
Geography and Resource Management

Master of Social Science in Sustainable Tourism

(MSSST) (1-year full-time / 2-year part-time)

Introduction

Sustainable tourism is a new and important study area in geography, resource management and related disciplines. In practice, it promotes the development of tourism industry taking into consideration of the environmental, resource and sustainability issues.

The Department of Geography and Resource Management (GRMD), which is in the vanguard of promoting environmental and sustainability issues in Hong Kong and the region, presents a distinctive programme that has a strong focus on resource management issues, tourism policy and ecotourism practicum in Hong Kong as well as in greater China. It adopts a natural resources-based perspective incorporating resource management and environmental management principles.

Understanding and implementing sustainable tourism will help the environment, promote education and ethics, and inculcate conservation.

Objectives

The objectives of the MSSST are:

- To provide a solid conceptual framework and a technical know-how in the understanding and implementation of sustainable tourism;
- To raise the level of awareness of participants on aspects of resource management and environmental management principles; and
- To help inculcate environmentally friendly outdoor skills and equip participants with skills to plan, develop and manage resources for sustainable tourism and its derivatives.



Who Should Apply?

This programme is targeted at those who are interested in developing a career in tourism and environment, those who deal with policies of the environment, natural resources and tourism, and those in the tourism industry who are looking for knowledge of tourism sustainability.

Specifically, this programme is also useful for those who are working for the government agencies such as the:

- Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department;
- Architectural Services Department;
- Civil Engineering and Development Department;
- Development Bureau;
- District Offices;
- Education Bureau; Environment Bureau;
- Environmental Protection Department;

- Home Affairs Bureau/Department;
- Hong Kong Tourism Board;
- Information Services Department;
- Lands Department;
- Leisure and Cultural Services Department;
- Planning Department;
- Sustainable Development Unit;
- Tourism Commission, etc.

Programme Structure

The programme will address sustainable tourism from a natural resources-based perspective and will:

Incorporate resource management and environmental management principles;

Identify relevant policies, and provide the opportunity for practicum;

Help students develop environmentally friendly outdoor skills;

Develop concepts and techniques of communication and interpretation; and

Equip students with skills to plan, develop and manage potential sites and enterprises.

This is a one-year full-time or two-year part-time Master of Social Science Programme. Students need to complete 24 credit units for graduation. Lectures and seminars, field trips and field work in the form of practicum, and assignments in the form of projects and reports are the major instruction formats. All lectures will be offered in weekday evening or Saturday afternoon on the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) campus. Field trips will also be conducted on Saturdays and Sundays.



Term 1 (September - December)

*SUTM 5001
Planning for Sustainable
Tourism Development
*SUTM 5003
Tourism Policy and Development
SUTM 5004
Nature-based Tourism

Term 2 (January - April)

SUTM 5002
Cultural and Heritage Tourism
SUTM 5005
Resource and Environmental
Management for Tourism
SUTM 5006
Ecotourism Practicum and Management
SUTM 5007
Urban Tourism
SUTM 5008
Overseas Field Studies

Summer (May - July)

SUTM 5012
Dissertation

*Required courses

Note: each student needs to take 2 required courses and 5 or 6 elective courses in order to fulfill the requirement of graduation.

Qualifications for Admission

Applicants shall have graduated from a recognized university and obtained a Bachelor's degree. Those who expect to obtain a Bachelor's degree in the current academic year may also apply for admission.

All students should fulfill the English Language Proficiency Requirement prescribed below before they are admitted:

— Possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations:

- Hong Kong Advanced Level Exam (AS Level);
- Hong Kong Higher Level Exam;
- CUHK Matriculation Exam; or

— Achieve Level 4 or above in the English Language subject of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination; or

— Submit one of the following original score reports/certificates for assessment by the programmes concerned:

- TOEFL (normally not lower than 550 for paper-based and 79 for internet-based);
- IELTS (Academic) (normally not lower than Band 6.5);
- GMAT (Verbal) (normally not lower than 21); or

— Have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or an English speaking country; or

— Have obtained a recognized professional qualification awarded in Hong Kong or an English speaking country.

Tuition Fee

Please refer to the homepage of CUHK Graduate School (<http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/>) for detailed information on tuition fee. Tuition fee will be collected in two installments per year.

Some courses in the programme are included in the list of reimbursement courses for Continuing Education Fund (CEF) purposes.



Scholarship

Outstanding applicants admitted to the programme will be considered for an admission scholarship. Please refer to the homepage of Department of Geography and Resource Management for the latest information.

Application Procedures

Applicants can submit applications via the Internet through CUHK Graduate School ([http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/Application for Admission](http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/Application%20for%20Admission)).

Paper application forms are also obtainable at: Graduate School Office ,

7th Floor, Yasumoto International Academic Park,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong,
Sha Tin, New Territories,
Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 3943 8976

Fax: (852) 2603 5779

Email: gradschool@cuhk.edu.hk

Office Hours: Mon-Thu 8:45am-1:00pm,
2:00pm-5:30pm
Fri 8:45am-1:00pm,
2:00pm-5:45pm

Enquiries

For further information, please contact:
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Programme Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MSSST.CUHK>

Department website: <http://www.grm.cuhk.edu.hk>



Application Deadline
End of April each year

