

4.26 Full-time Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

Prof. Alex C.W. FUNG, Head, Department of Education Studies

Aims

- (a) To develop in student-teachers personal qualities which support their daily work and professional development.
- (b) To develop in student-teachers functional knowledge of disciplines which informs educational practice.
- (c) To develop in student-teachers expertise as subject specialist teachers in secondary schools.
- (d) To develop in student-teachers knowledge essential for effective functioning within the profession and the wider school context.

Admission Requirements

Applicants should possess:

- (a) a Bachelor's degree from a recognized university or equivalent; and
- (b) demonstrated language proficiency in Chinese and English as recognized by the Department.

Applications are invited for the following subjects: Chinese, English, Mathematics, Computer & Information Technology, Physical Education, Music, Geography, Economics/EPA, History and Liberal Studies. Eventual provision will depend on needs and Departmental resources.

Applicants may be required to attend an interview as part of the selection process. Reference is made to communicative skills, language proficiency, maturity and motivation of the candidate.

Applicants applying for Chinese and English subjects may be required to sit for a language proficiency test.

Structure of the Course

This Postgraduate Diploma in Education is a one-year full-time taught course. The overall aim of the course

is to provide university graduates with professional training for teaching in secondary schools prior to their joining the teaching profession. The course is designed to help students to develop their knowledge, abilities, personal qualities and philosophies that enable them to adequately assume their roles within the teaching profession.

The course consists of 32 units, comprising core subjects (16 units), elective subjects (4 units) and Integrated Practicum (12 units), to be taken in one year of full-time study. Students have to take seven core subjects, two elective subjects and the Integrated Practicum, that includes Subject Instruction I & II, School Experience and Supervised Teaching Practice.

Students of the English stream are required to attend a compulsory overseas immersion programme of 6-8 weeks in duration in an English-speaking country. It is expected that (i) the per-head budget for the programme will be around HK\$42,000; (ii) students will be required to pay 18% of the total expenses; and (iii) the rest will be covered by the HKSAR Government. These will have to be confirmed by the Government in due course. Financial assistance can be sought from the Local Student Finance Scheme (LSFS).

The course adopts a student-centered approach, using a variety of teaching strategies to support classroom learning and teaching practice. These strategies emphasize reflection, creativity and continuous development of the student. Teaching is conducted through lectures, lecture-discussions and seminars. Students are offered opportunities to have real-life experience as teachers and put what they have learnt into practice during the periods of Field Practice. On-site supervision and peer observation are included in the different aspects of the Integrated Practicum, i.e., Subject Instruction I & II, School Experience and Supervised Teaching Practice.

Normally students should complete the course in one calendar year. With special permission, a student may extend his or her study into the second year, but in no case would the period of study be allowed to exceed two

4 TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

calendar years.

Requirements of the course are as follows:

Core Subjects **16 units**

Psychological Foundations of Teaching & Learning	2 units
Teacher Self-Development	2 units
Social Foundations of Education	2 units
Philosophical Foundations of Education	2 units
Curriculum & Assessment	3 units
Foundations of Information Technology in Education	2 units
Classroom Management & Communication	3 units

Elective Subjects **4 units**

Each student must select TWO elective subjects from any of the following subject areas. They are advised to base their decisions on their interest or the relevance of the subjects to their future career in teaching.

Area A: Social and Autonomous Individual

Student Self-Development	2 units
Psychology of Adolescence	2 units
Creative & Critical Thinking	2 units
Advanced Communication Skills	2 units

Area B: Facilitator of Learning

School Guidance	2 units
Inclusive Education	2 units
Teaching of a Second Subject	2 units

Area C: Educational Innovator

Sociology of School Organization	2 units
School Management & Decision Making	2 units
Classroom Research	2 units
Instructional Design & Technology	2 units

Area D: Professional Educator

Education System & Policy in Hong Kong	2 units
Teaching as a Profession	2 units
Language in Education	2 units
Comparative Education	2 units
Moral & Civic Education	2 units
Language & Society	2 units

Integrated Practicum	12 units
Subject Instruction I	4 units
Subject Instruction II	4 units
School Experience	0 unit
Supervised Teaching Practice	4 units
	32 units

Students who have (a) completed a total of 32 units as required by the Department; (b) obtained a grade of C- or above, or S where applicable, in all subjects; (c) obtained a grade of S in School Experience and Supervised Teaching Practice; (d) obtained a grade of S in Immersion Programme where applicable; and (e) achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or above will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Education. To be awarded Distinction for the course, students should attain a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or above, with no subject grade below B- and no repeated subjects. Students attaining a cumulative GPA between 3.40 and 3.69 will be awarded Merit.

4.27 Part-time Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

Prof. Alex C.W. FUNG, Head, Department of Education Studies

Aims

The overall aim of the course is to provide professional training for secondary school teachers who have obtained a bachelor's degree in an academic discipline to enable them to adequately assume their roles within the teaching profession. Specifically, the course aims

- to develop in student-teachers personal qualities which support their daily work and professional development;
- to develop in student-teachers functional knowledge of disciplines which informs educational practice;
- to develop in student-teachers expertise in teaching specializing subjects in secondary schools; and
- to develop in student-teachers knowledge essential for effective functioning within the profession and the wider school context.