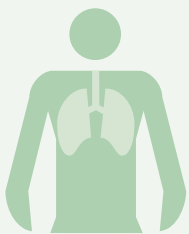


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POSH



Postgraduate scheme in Occupational Safety and Health



Our credibility and authority

Our credibility stems from our long experience of teaching the subject and our contacts with local safety and health regulatory agencies.

Industrial experience

We have a broad experience of occupational safety and health in a range of industries. Our expertise embraces construction and manufacturing industries.

Relevance

Our Occupational Safety & Health programmes are explicitly targeted to meet the various educational/training needs that follow from the current legal foundation for safety and health at work in Hong Kong. In fact our Post-experience Certificate Course (formerly Certificate of Proficiency) in Industrial Safety has been recognised by the Labour Department as one of the requirements for registration as Registered Safety Officer.

The specific benefits and features of our Safety Programmes

Excellence

We have an on-going commitment to improve the standards of occupational safety and health based on continual monitoring and reviewing of our activities.

Our Central Location

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is ideally situated at the heart of the city and at the centre of the Hong Kong's communication network.

Introduction

In recent years rapid changes in occupational safety and health practice have occurred in Hong Kong. These changes have led to an increased demand from government and industry for people with a high level of expertise to work in occupational safety and health in a full time capacity. For economic reasons, there has been a growing demand for occupational safety and health professionals who have competencies in areas of safety management as well as the ability to deal effectively with a wide range of people in different disciplines. The role of the OSH professional is also changing to include environmental issues. The programme will meet that demand by producing graduates with a breadth and depth of occupational safety and health knowledge and skills.

The Programme - POSH

The programme is an integrated Postgraduate scheme in Occupational Safety and Health (POSH) offered by the College of Science, Technology and Environment of the University of Western Sydney (UWS), Australia, working in cooperation with the Industrial Centre (IC) and the School of Professional Education and Executive Development (SPEED) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). The programme commenced in 1996, and, at the end of 2003, has graduated over 170 students with a Master's degree and over 230 students with a graduate diploma. On satisfactory completion of the scheme, students will be granted the following awards of UWS:

- Graduate Diploma of Applied Science (Occupational Health and Safety)
- Master of Applied Science (Safety Management)

Course Objectives

The 2 1/2 year part-time programme (composed of the Graduate Diploma and Master's Degree) is designed to provide advanced safety management studies to prepare suitable candidates and safety practitioners for positions of leadership in occupational safety and health.

This programme aims to give students the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and develop the skills essential for the effective practice of occupational safety and health as a basis for career specialisation and development.

The specific aims of the course are to:

- provide students with a conceptual understanding of the areas relevant to the occupational safety and health field;
- facilitate an understanding in the students of the reciprocal relationship between work, health and the environment;
- enable students to recognise the relationship between the prevention of work-related illness or injury, improved organisational productivity and the implementation of best practice;
- provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively manage occupational safety, health and environmental programmes.

In addition, the Master's Degree programme will:

- develop the students' ability to plan and conduct independent research in the field of managing occupational safety, health and environmental issues;
- develop the students' ability to communicate, both orally and in writing, in a variety of professional areas.

This is an exempted course under the Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance in Hong Kong.

Period of Study Required for the Awards

Completion of the Graduate Diploma programme requires the completion of 6 subjects which can be attained over 1 1/2 years of part-time studies.

Students who successfully complete the Graduate Diploma programme may proceed to the Master's programme and are required to complete additional studies in order to acquire the Master degree in Applied Science (Safety Management). This requires an additional year of part-time study. Students may complete the full requirements for the Master's programme via this path in a total of 2 1/2 years of part-time study upon completion of 7 subjects and a research project including those attained in the Graduate Diploma programme.

Mode of Study

The proposed Graduate Diploma and Master's programmes will be undertaken by distance education which utilises a combination of well developed study notes and books of readings together with lectures for each subject within the programme.

Students will progress through each subject on an independent study basis using the distance education materials. Each subject will include compulsory lectures / workshops supplemented by tutorials. Lectures, workshops and tutorials will be held on weekday evenings and weekends in The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Students will also be encouraged in various subjects to communicate with the teaching staff by email or web-based programmes.

Entry Requirements

Entry to the Graduate Diploma is open to candidates with appropriate tertiary qualifications and relevant professional experience. Those with Post-experience Certificates (previously Certificate of Proficiency) in Industrial Safety issued by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (formerly Hong Kong Polytechnic), or Higher Diplomas in the field of engineering/construction are encouraged to apply if they have a proven record of relevant working experience in occupational safety and health.

All students are required to have a good command of written and spoken English. Applicants whose first language is English or if they can provide evidence that English was the medium of instruction in their secondary or tertiary studies may be considered as having met the English proficiency requirement.

If English is not the first language of the applicants, nor was it the medium of instruction in the applicants' secondary or tertiary studies, they are then required to obtain a TOEFL score of no less than 570 with a TWE of 5 (or equivalent standard acceptable to UWS. See <http://www.uws.edu.au/students/international/english.html>).

All admitted students are suggested to take an English course offered by SPEED, namely English for Academic Purposes, to ensure that they have acquired a certain level of English proficiency in order to handle the tasks of tertiary English writing, reading, listening and speaking.

Course Structure and Contents

The Graduate Diploma of Applied Science (Occupational Health and Safety) currently consists the following six subjects:

- Occupational Health Management
- Environmental Management
- Safety Management
- Critical Incident Analysis
- Research Methods
- Hazardous Chemicals

Graduates of the Graduate Diploma programme may proceed to the Master's programme and are required to complete additional studies in order to acquire the degree of Master of Applied Science (Safety Management).

- Safety Systems Integration
- Project (year-long, workplace-based)

*Subject to change, i.e. subject names and order, at the discretion of the University of Western Sydney

Methods of Assessment

Assessment exercises reflect a commitment to the principles of adult learning, including the development of the students' understanding and application of core principles rather than simply testing their knowledge. Examples of assessment methods include:

- written assignments such as topic research, literature reviews, programme development or evaluation, field visit evaluations and portfolios incorporating reflective journals;
- workshop seminars covering areas such as professional practice, hazards assessment reports, topic seminars and project reports;
- web-based interaction, discussion and quizzes;
- examination or quizzes may be required for certain subjects;
- in addition, Master's Degree candidates will prepare a research document which may take the form of a thesis, a dissertation or a research paper, depending on the weighting given to the research component of the study programme.

Academic and Professional Recognition

The awards of the programme are accorded the same status as those granted by the University of Western Sydney. The programmes also comply with the National Occupational Health & Safety Commission guidelines for courses in occupational safety and health offered by tertiary institutions in Australia.

Graduates of the scheme with appropriate work experience have been accepted for full membership of the Safety Institute of Australia (SIA) and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH).

'It is the discretion of individual employers to recognise any qualification to which the programme may lead.'

Master of Applied Science (Safety Management)

1 subject + 1 project

Duration: One year

Graduate Diploma of Applied Science

(Occupational Health & Safety)

6 subjects

Duration: One and a half year

Higher Diploma
equivalent or above

Safety Manager/Officer
or equivalent

- *Post Experience Certificate or

- *Certificate of Proficiency
in Advanced Industrial Safety

- *Post Experience Certificate or

- *Certificate of Proficiency
in Industrial Safety

*Recognised by Labour Department

The **University of Western Sydney** was founded in 1989 and currently has over 30,000 Australian and International students enrolled. UWS has a good record of running joint Degree courses with overseas universities.

The College of Science, Technology and Environment at the University of Western Sydney offers a Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Occupational Health and Safety) and a Master degree in Applied Science (Safety Management).

University of Western Sydney The Industrial Centre

The **Industrial Centre** of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University has a long history of offering professional safety training courses for the training of safety personnel. The first safety programme at Endorsement Certificate level was launched in 1979 and currently it is offered under PolyU's Post-experience Scheme. Since its inception, the Scheme has produced over 1,500 qualified Registered Safety Officers and safety professionals.

For further information, please contact the Industrial Centre

Address: Industrial Centre, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Telephone No.: (852) 2766 7594 / (852) 2766 7602

Fax No.: (852) 2334 4634

E-mail Address: icskpoon@polyu.edu.hk

Internet Address: <http://www.ic.polyu.edu.hk/oess/POSH/main.htm>

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University reserves the right to withdraw or cancel courses.



Applications and Enquiries

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT (SPEED)

Address Room QR802, 8/F, Core R
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Telephone 3400 2828

Facsimile 2363 0540

Website www.speed.polyu.edu.hk

E-mail speed@polyu.edu.hk

