SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND SHEFFIELD HALLAM UNIVERSITY

LEARNING PROGRAMME RE-ACCREDITATION

BA (HONS) APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCE

APRIL 2018

This accreditation report is issued by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) in its capacity as the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) (AAVQO). This report outlines the HKCAAVQ's determination, the validity period of the determination as well as any conditions or restrictions on the determination.

1.   Introduction

1.1   The School of Continuing and Professional Education (SCOPE) at the City University of Hong Kong (CityU) was established as the Centre for Continuing Education in 1991 in CityU serving the lifelong learning needs of the community. SCOPE offers three major categories of programmes: programmes leading to non-local awards (foundation degree to doctoral level); programmes leading to continuing education awards; government-initiated programmes and short courses.

1.2   Sheffield Hallam University (SHU), previously the Sheffield City University, was granted university title and degree awarding power in 1992 in the United Kingdom (UK).

1.3   The accreditation exercise was conducted according to the relevant accreditation guidelines referred to in the Service Agreement and the Terms of Reference stated therein. A site visit took place on 1 and 2 February 2018.

2.   HKCAAVQ's Accreditation Determination

Having due consideration of the accreditation panel's observations and comments as presented in this Report, HKCAAVQ makes the following accreditation determination:

2.1   Learning Programme Re-accreditation

☑   Approval

Name of Local Operator	School of Continuing and Professional Education, City University of Hong Kong 香港城市大學專業進修學院
Name of Non-local Operator	Sheffield Hallam University 謝菲爾德哈勒姆大學

Name of Award Granting Body	Sheffield Hallam University 謝菲爾德哈勒姆大學
Title of Learning Programme	BA (Hons) Applied Social Science 應用社會科學榮譽文學士
Title of Qualification	BA (Hons) Applied Social Science 應用社會科學榮譽文學士
Primary Area of Study and Training	Social Sciences
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Social and Behavioural Sciences
Other Area of Study and Training	Not applicable
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Not applicable
HKQF Level	Level 5
HKQF Credits	Not applicable
Mode of Delivery and Programme Length	Full-time, 3 years (for Year 1 entry) Full-time, 1 year (for top-up entry)
Start Date of Validity Period	1 September 2018
End Date of Validity Period	31 August 2022
Number of Enrolment(s)	One enrolment per year
Maximum Number of New Students	Full-time: 80 (for Year 1 entry) Full-time: 70 (for top-up entry)

Address of Teaching Venues	(1) City University of Hong Kong main campus, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
	(2) CityU SCOPE Tsim Sha Tsui East Learning Centre, UG2 & UG3, Chinachem Golden Plaza, 77 Mody Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon
	(3) CityU SCOPE Admiralty Learning Centre, 8/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Admiralty, Hong Kong

2.1.1 Recommendations

(a) The Operator should conduct a survey to collect the views of the employers and graduates on graduate performance and programme effectiveness of the Programme after the graduation of the first cohort of the full degree programme and develop a marketing plan informed by their views to enhance its attractiveness to potential students.

(b) The Operator should revisit and revise the POs and PILOs to clearly reflect the content of the Programme and ensure that it is fit for purpose in the Hong Kong market.

(c) The Operator should provide up-to-date and relevant references in all module outlines in a standardised format and make them available on the VLE at least one week before the module commencement to facilitate effective learning of the students.

(d) The Operator should develop a specific mechanism for moderating the marked assessments of the module *Work Placement* for consistent and fair assessment and to evaluate the module after its first operation for continuous improvement.

(e) The Operator should produce a Dissertation Handbook detailing the specific requirements of a dissertation to ensure comparability between students and provide clear direction for supervisors and students.

(f) The Operator should increase the involvement of SHU in the teaching activities of the Programme apart from monitoring the quality of the Programme delivered at SCOPE.

(g) The Operator should strengthen their respective roles in managing the Programme and review the comprehensiveness of the annual programme review.

3. Programme Details

The following programme information is provided by the operator.

3.1 Programme Objectives

PO1	To provide a sound applied knowledge in social science, with a particular focus on contemporary topics, concepts, and research
PO2	To develop a critical understanding of how governments and other agencies in a range of international settings respond to problems and issues
PO3	To develop skills in the application of social science theory and scholarly knowledge, including comparative analysis, to problems and issues
PO4	To encourage students' use of their previous academic study, and their own social and cultural experiences to inform their study at honours level
PO5	To provide an interesting, challenging and innovative learning experience which meets appropriate standards of quality
PO6	To help students to develop the key personal and transferable skills associated with their 'graduateness' and future employment in a rapidly changing environment
PO7	To provide a dynamic and supportive learning environment, which encourages graduates to operate autonomously as reflective and reflexive practitioners
PO8	To provide a suitable range of choices in the learning process allowing students to tailor their course for employment or further professional or postgraduate education

3.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding (KU):
By completing the programme, students will have both knowledge and understanding of the following:

1.	the nature of social scientific explanation

2.	key concepts and theoretical approaches in applied social sciences
3.	interdisciplinary approaches to applied social sciences
4.	the theories and methods of comparative analysis
5.	how contemporary social problems have emerged and a range of policy responses to such problems
6.	the links between the economic, social and political dimensions of human societies in a globalizing world
7.	how to generate appropriate analytical questions and research designs
8.	the differences between, and appropriate application of, quantitative and qualitative research methods
9.	the local, regional, international and supra-national dimensions of policy, especially social policy
10.	a range of sources of data and of the methods used to collect and analyse such data

Intellectual / Subject / Professional Key skills:
By the end of the programme, students will be able to:

1.	gather, retrieve, analyse, evaluate and synthesise information from a variety of sources
2.	identify, analyse, synthesise and evaluate arguments and research findings in a range of social science discipline areas
3.	present reasoned argument, and formulate and advocate solutions to social problems and issues in a variety of national and international contexts
4.	reflect on your own learning and seek to make use of constructive feedback for continuous intellectual development throughout your course of study
5.	manage your own learning self critically and exercise critical judgement
6.	identify ethical issues in research and conduct research in an ethical way which recognises the importance of explicit referencing and the reflective use of information and communications technology in the learning process
7.	communicate effectively and use a range of communication and information technology for the retrieval and presentation of information
8.	manage time effectively and work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation, independent enquiry and learner autonomy

3.3   Programme Structure

Full degree programme

Module	Core or Elective	UK Level	Credit Value
Year 1			
Introduction to Psychology I	Core	4	20
Shaping Societies	Core	4	20
Introduction to Politics and Society	Core	4	20
Deviance, Order and Protest	Core	4	20
Year 2			
Introduction to Psychology II	Core	4	20
The Sociological Imagination	Core	4	20
Applications of Psychology	Core	5	20
Work Placement	Core	5	20
Personal Learning Portfolio	Core	5	20
Year 3			
Research Methods (HK)	Core	5	20
Understanding Global Societies (HK)	Core	5	20
Organisations, Work and Psychology	Core	6	20
Families and Kinship: A Global Perspective	Core	6	20
Welfare Rights & Legal Issues	Elective	6	20
Counselling and Psychotherapy	Elective	6	20
Youth Justice Systems in International Contexts	Elective	6	20
Work, Employment and Globalisation	Elective	6	20
Evidence for Welfare Practice	Elective	6	20
Applied Dissertation	Elective	6	40

Top-up programme

Module	Core or Elective	UK Level	Credit Value
Personal Learning Portfolio	Core	5	20

Research Methods (HK)	Core	5	20
Understanding Global Societies (HK)	Core	5	20
Organisations, Work and Psychology	Core	6	20
Families and Kinship: A Global Perspective	Core	6	20
Counselling and Psychotherapy	Elective	6	20
Applied Dissertation	Elective	6	40
Evidence for Welfare Practice	Elective	6	20
Youth Justice Systems in International Contexts	Elective	6	20
Work, Employment and Globalisation	Elective	6	20
Welfare Rights and Legal Issues	Elective	6	20

3.4   Graduation Requirements

- To graduate, students in the top-up programme are required to complete 180 credits including five core modules while students in the full degree programme are required to complete 360 credits including 13 core modules.

3.5   Admission Requirements

Year 1 Entry

(a) Applicants obtaining total score of 15 or above in five HKDSE subjects, including English Language at Level 3 and no subject at Level 1; or

(b) Applicants successfully completed the "Diploma in International Degree Foundation" offered by SCOPE; or

(c) Equivalent qualifications.

Top-up entry

(a) Graduates with an Associate Degree / Higher Diploma in Social Sciences or related disciplines

4. Substantial Change

4.1 HKCAAVQ may vary or withdraw the Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website. The accreditation status of the Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of the Accreditation Report.

5. Qualifications Register

5.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register (QR) at http://www.hkqr.gov.hk for recognition under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF). The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.

5.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the HKQF.

Report No.: 18/70
File Reference: 100/29/02