



香港學術及職業資歷評審局  
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of  
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

## **SUMMARY ACCREDITATION REPORT**

**HONG KONG SHUE YAN UNIVERSITY**

**PERIODIC REVIEW FOR  
EIGHT PROGRAMME AREAS**

**AUGUST 2016**

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 Hong Kong Shue Yan University is registered under the Post-Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320), and its predecessor Hong Kong Shue Yan College (HKSYC) was founded in 1971. In 2001, HKSYC acquired HKCAA accreditation status for the offer of bachelor's degree programmes and launched its first cohort of bachelor degree programmes in that same year. In June 2006 the HKSYC undertook an institutional review for the purpose of demonstrating that the institution was ready to be granted the Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) status in respect of three Areas of Study, namely Arts, Commerce, and Social Sciences. Upon the advice of the HKSAR Government, the same exercise also had the purpose of assessing whether the HKSYC had an overall academic environment befitting the status of a university.
- 1.2 As a result of the 2006 exercise, HKSYC was granted PAA status for fourteen Programme Areas (PAs) within three Areas of Study and Training for a period of five years ending August 2011. It was also granted university title by the Government consequent to this exercise renaming as Hong Kong Shue Yan University (the University). In accordance with HKCAAVQ's Four-Stage Quality Assurance Process, PAA status is subject to Periodic Review (PR). The University went through its first PR in 2011 and was given approval to maintain the PAA status for the next five academic years ending August 2016.
- 1.3 Arising from the introduction of the *New Classification of Areas of Study and Training in the Qualifications Register (QR), List of Sub-areas and Illustrative Scope Statements* in January 2016, the University proposed to consolidate their fourteen PAs into eight with their respective scope delineated accordingly.

- 1.4 Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) was commissioned by Hong Kong Shue Yan University to conduct a periodic review with the following Terms of Reference:
- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether Hong Kong Shue Yan University can be approved to maintain the Programme Area Accreditation status for the Programme Areas for a specified validity period as from the 2016/17 academic year; and
  - (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.
- 1.5 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 17-20 May 2016.

## **2. HKCAAVQ's Accreditation Determination**

- 2.1 Having due consideration of the accreditation panel's observations and comments as presented in this Report, HKCAAVQ makes the following accreditation determination.
- 2.2 The University is considered as meeting the HKCAAVQ accreditation standards of the Periodic Review. The University's policies are in line with the strategic plans and are consistent with the overall mission, aims and objectives of its operation. The University continues to have appropriate mechanisms and management procedures to ensure effective academic development, quality assurance, staffing and staff development. Its resources allocation supports the development and management of the programme areas. The University also has robust internal processes in place that ensure its learning programmes meet the stated objectives and QF standards.
- 2.3 HKCAAVQ determines that the University can be approved to maintain the Programme Area Accreditation status for the Programme Areas and their respective scope with a validity period of five years from the 2016/17 to 2020/21 academic years inclusive. The details are specified as follows:

<b>Name of Operator</b>	Hong Kong Shue Yan University 香港樹仁大學				
<b>Address of Operator</b>	10 Wai Tsui Crescent, Braemar Hill Road, North Point, Hong Kong				
<b>Name of Award Granting Body</b>	Hong Kong Shue Yan University 香港樹仁大學				
<b>Area(s) of Study and Training</b>	Business and Management	Humanities	Languages and Related Studies	Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations	Social Sciences
<b>Sub-Area(s)</b>	a) General Business Management b) Accounting, Finance & Investment c) Economics	Humanities	Languages and Related Studies	Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations	a) Social and Behavioural Sciences b) Social Services
<b>Programme Area(s)</b>	a) General Business Management b) Accounting, Finance & Investment c) Economics	History	Languages and Related Studies	Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations	a) Social and Behavioural Sciences b) Social Services
<b>QF Level</b>	Level 5				
<b>Start Date of Validity Period</b>	1 September 2016				
<b>End Date of Validity Period</b>	31 August 2021				
<b>Address of Teaching / Training Venue(s)</b>	(1) 10 Wai Tsui Crescent, Braemar Hill Road, North Point, Hong Kong (2) 7 Wan Chai Gap Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong				

## 2.4 Requirement

- The University is to
  - (a) implement its policies on the renewal of membership of the Board of Governors (BoG) by appointing (i) at least two new

members with appropriate qualifications and experience by 1 April 2017 and (ii) at least four more new members with appropriate qualifications and experience by 1 April 2020 so as to strengthen its membership and broaden the representation;

- (b) clarify the role of the BoG as a supreme policy making body;
  - (c) specify the role of the BoG in the Terms of Reference for approving the University's Strategic Plan and its annual operational plans; and
  - (d) stipulate a minimum of three meetings per year.
- Arising from the requirement, the University is to submit
    - (1) the profile of the first cohort of the new BoG members and the revised Terms of Reference to HKCAAVQ on the fulfilment of the Requirement (a) (i), (b),(c) and (d) above **on or before 1 May 2017**; and
    - (2) the profile of the second cohort of the new BoG members on the fulfilment of Requirement (a) (ii) above **on or before 1 May 2020**.

## 2.5 Recommendations

- (a) The University should develop both qualitative and quantitative key performance indicators for the management of the Strategic Plan.
- (b) The University should disseminate the Strategic Plan widely with a view to gaining further support for the strategic goals developed.
- (c) The University should review its capacity in human resources management and consider appointing a professional with the expertise to support the function.
- (d) The University should refine the mapping of the course intended learning outcomes and assessment items and review the vetting process for closer scrutiny of the syllabus documentation.
- (e) The University should refine the plagiarism policy with a view to improving the consistency in its application, and review the way how the policy is communicated to staff and students.

## 2.6 Scope of Programme Areas

- (a) The scope of the approved programme area of General Business Management covers the study and training in various aspects of organisations and their operations in relation to internal and external environments in which they operate for the purpose of effective management of the business and operation to achieve institutional goals. This covers marketing, management, human resource management and other aspects of organisational management and operations.
- (b) The scope of the approved programme area of Accounting, Finance & Investment covers the study and training in the measurement, processing and communication of financial information and services about economic entities.
- (c) The scope of the approved programme area of Economics covers the study and training in the allocation, distribution and utilisation of resources; the skills for the measurement and management of risk; and the analysis of factors that influence income, wealth and well-being on a personal, organisational, national or international basis.
- (d) The scope of the approved programme area of History covers the study and training in Chinese history from ancient to contemporary times, supplemented by World history and the study of select countries/areas for reference.
- (e) The scope of the approved programme area of Languages and Related Studies covers the (i) Study and training in language forms, language meaning, and language in context for human communication by speaking, writing, listening and reading or any other symbols relevant to the group(s) in particular region(s); (ii) Study and training in the science of languages; (iii) Study and training in the analysis of the artistic expression of language in various forms, such as prose, verse, scripts, etc.; and / or the methods, forms, systems and expression for communication from one language to another (or more languages) taking into account socio, cultural and historical factors and / or; (iv) any other related studies and training.
- (f) The scope of the approved programme area of Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations covers the study and training in the various systems, means, media and

processes for sending and passing information and messages to the target audience to achieve intended purposes.

(g) The scope of the approved programme area of Social and Behavioural Sciences covers the study and training about society and the way people live.

(h) The scope of the approved programme area of Social Services covers the study and training in the provision of services that seek to pursue social justice and/or improve the quality of life of people who are disadvantaged or need support in their lives.

2.7 The PAA status as defined by the approved programme area(s) will enable the named Operator to offer programmes up to the QF level specified for the approved programme area(s) without prior learning programme accreditation. The programmes offered by the named Operator up to the QF level specified for the approved programme area(s) are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register (QR). All other programmes offered by the named Operator falling outside the approved programme area(s) and which have not obtained accreditation status will not be considered as accredited programmes.

### **3. Substantial Change**

3.1 Maintenance of the HKCAAVQ accreditation status during the validity period is subject to no substantial change being made without prior approval from HKCAAVQ.

### **4. Qualifications Register**

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

4.2 Only learners who are admitted to the accredited programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the qualification uploaded in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the QF.

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