



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

LEARNING PROGRAMME RE-ACCREDITATION

**DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY IN COUNSELLING
PSYCHOLOGY**

AUGUST 2019

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: AA514), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap. 592), was commissioned by Hong Kong Shue Yan University to conduct learning programme re-accreditation with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether the Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology programme of Hong Kong Shue Yan University (the Operator) meets the stated objectives and QF standard and can continue to be offered as an accredited programme; and
- (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

Learning Programme Accreditation

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, the Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology meets the stated objectives and QF standard at Level 7, and can be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period from 2019/20 to 2023/24.

2.2 Validity Period

2.2.1 The validity period will commence on the date specified below. Operators may apply to HKCAAVQ to vary the commencement date of the validity period. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.3 The determinations on the Programme are specified as follows:

Name of Operator	Hong Kong Shue Yan University 香港樹仁大學
Name of Award Granting Body	Hong Kong Shue Yan University 香港樹仁大學

Title of Learning Programme	Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology 輔導心理學博士
Title of Qualification(s) [Exit Award(s)]	Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology 輔導心理學博士
Primary Area of Study and Training	Social Sciences
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Social Services
Other Area of Study and Training	Not applicable
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Not applicable
QF Level	Level 7
QF Credits	Not applicable
Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length	Part-time, 3 years
Start Date of Validity Period	1 September 2019
End Date of Validity Period	31 August 2024
Number of Enrolment(s)	One enrolment per year
Maximum Number of New Students	6 per year
Specification of Competency Standards-based Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Address of Teaching / Training Venue(s)	10 Wai Tsui Crescent, Braemar Hill, Hong Kong
--	---

2.4 Recommendations

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement of the Programme.

- 2.4.1 HKSYU should include training modules explicitly in the Programme to prepare students for teaching in the future.
 - 2.4.2 HKSYU should take a proactive role in promoting the profession of counselling psychology in the community of Hong Kong, as well as in China and Asia.
 - 2.4.3 HKSYU should explore different methods to collect candid and thoughtful feedback from students for continuous improvement.
 - 2.4.4 HKSYU should strengthen its communication with the site agencies and set out the arrangements for placement activities in an agreement with the site agencies to clarify the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders.
- 2.5 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSYU) is a private university in Hong Kong. It was founded in 1971 as the Hong Kong Shue Yan College, and has been registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) since 1976. It became a recognised private degree-awarding institution in Hong Kong in 2001, and was granted the university status in December 2006.

- 3.2 HKSYU currently operates seven doctoral programmes at QF Level 7 and the Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology (the Programme) was first accredited in 2014 for a period of four years ending on 31 August 2019.
- 3.3 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 23 and 24 May 2019.

4. PROGRAMME DETAILS

The following programme information is provided by the operator.

4.1 Programme Objectives

- Enable trainees to develop a heightened degree of sensitivity to individual and cultural diversity among their clients
- Enable trainees to develop current knowledge in the skills, techniques, and practices of counselling psychology in the major variations of practices;
- Enrich trainees' knowledge of and experience with using quantitative and qualitative methods for conducting research and completing evaluations;
- Enable trainees to develop skills and strategies to perform assessment and evaluation of clients, assessment and evaluation of programmes, and assessment and evaluation of institutions, acceptable at a professionally recognized level;
- Familiarize trainees with the practice of counselling psychology in areas where most counselling psychologists are employed, including mental health counselling practices (agency and private), school-based practices (Primary, Form 1-6 [Secondary], and University), marital and family psychotherapy and vocational psychology;
- Make trainees aware of lifespan development issues that can benefit from some type of psychological intervention;

- Make trainees' aware of and find solutions for a wide variety of legal, professional, and ethical issues in counselling psychology;
- Provide trainees with ample opportunities to integrate theory and practice, in preparing for clinical practice, and in clinical practice itself;
- Enable trainees to develop the skills to supervise junior counsellors at the undergraduate and master's level; and
- Allow trainees to fully experience the scientist-practitioner model of Counselling Psychology in theory and in practice.

4.2 Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

- Show sensitivity toward and identify the impact of individuation and culture on the practice of psychotherapy in a variety of social and cultural situations;
- Demonstrate awareness of important and unresolved issues in counselling psychology;
- Perform assessment and evaluation in counselling psychology at an advanced level acceptable to the profession;
- Delineate the core concepts of a chosen area in counselling psychology;
- Apply quantitative and qualitative approaches to research in counselling psychology, particular in the realm of evidence-based research;
- Conduct original research in counselling psychology;
- Write a research thesis (under supervision) at the doctoral level on a chosen topic of interest;
- Compose a scholarly paper worthy of publication in a peer-reviewed journal;
- Demonstrate in-depth comprehension of the theories, skills and techniques of at least two therapeutic approaches;
- Demonstrate competence in providing professional services to clients, including assessment, evaluation, psychoeducation, prevention, and intervention;

- Demonstrate competence in providing clinical supervision for students in counselling and counselling psychology at the undergraduate and master's levels; and
- Demonstrate awareness of a high standard of professional conduct and ethical concern.

4.3 Programme Structure

Year	Semester	Course	Credits	Dimension
1	Fall	CP601 Culture and Psychotherapy	3	Knowledge
		CP602 Conceptual Issues in Counselling Psychology	3	Knowledge
		CP605 Advanced Skills in Research Methods in Counselling Psychology	3	Research
	Spring	CP603 Guided Reading in Specific Topics	3	Knowledge
		CP604 Advanced Skills in Assessment and Evaluation in Counselling Psychology	3	Knowledge
		CP606 Research Mentorship in Counselling Psychology	3	Research
2	Fall	CP610 Independent Clinical Studies I	3	Practice
		CP611 Independent Clinical Studies II	3	Practice
	Spring	CP607 Clinical-based Research Thesis I	6	Research
		CP612 Clinical Practice I	6	Practice
	Summer	CP613 Clinical Practice II	6	Practice
3	Fall	CP608 Clinically-based Research Thesis II	6	Research

		CP614 Clinical Practice III	6	Practice
	Spring	CP609 Clinically-based Research Thesis III	6	Research

4.4 Graduation Requirements

- Complete a minimum of 60 credits
- Cumulative grade point average of 3.0

4.5 Admission Requirements

- possess a Bachelor's degree or a postgraduate conversion degree in Psychology from a recognised local or overseas university;
- possess a Master's degree in Counselling Psychology, Clinical Psychology or Counselling from a recognised local or overseas university;
- have earned a GPA of 3.3 or above, or its equivalent, from the aforementioned programmes of study; and
- Either
be currently registered or be eligible to register with the Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPS) as a Counselling or Clinical Psychologist;
Or
have completed at least one year of supervised post qualification experience in counselling practice after obtaining the Master's degree in Counselling.

4.6 Graduate Profile

- Please refer to Appendix.

5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

- 5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination

regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

- 5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this 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.
- 5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.
- 5.1.4 The accreditation status of Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

5.2 Appeals

- 5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.
- 5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the

right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.

- 5.2.4 Please refer to Cap. 592A (<http://www.legislation.gov.hk>) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at <http://www.hkqf.gov.hk>.

5.3 **Qualifications Register**

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

Report No.: 19/109
File Reference: 40/26/02

Appendix

Graduate Profile of Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology Programme

Qualification Title	Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology 輔導心理學博士
Qualification Type	Doctoral Degree
QF Level	7
Primary Area of Study and Training	Social Sciences
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Not Applicable
Other Area of Study and Training	Not Applicable
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Not Applicable

<p>Programme Objectives</p>	<p>The Programme Aims are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable trainees to develop a heightened degree of sensitivity to individual and cultural diversity among their clients; 2. Enable trainees to develop current knowledge in the skills, techniques, and practices of counselling psychology in the major variations of practices; 3. Enrich trainees' knowledge of and experience with using quantitative and qualitative methods for conducting research and completing evaluations; 4. Enable trainees to develop skills and strategies to perform assessment and evaluation of clients, assessment and evaluation of programmes, and assessment and evaluation of institutions, acceptable at a professionally recognized level; 5. Familiarize trainees with the practice of counselling psychology in areas where most counselling psychologists are employed, including mental health counselling practices (agency and private), school-based practices (Primary, Form 1-6 [Secondary], and University), marital and family psychotherapy and vocational psychology; 6. Make trainees aware of lifespan development issues that can benefit from some type of psychological intervention; 7. Make trainees' aware of and find solutions for a wide variety of legal, professional, and ethical issues in counselling psychology; 8. Provide trainees with ample opportunities to integrate theory and practice, in preparing for clinical practice, and in clinical practice itself; 9. Enable trainees to develop the skills to supervise junior counsellors at the undergraduate and master's level; and 10. Allow trainees to fully experience the scientist-practitioner model of Counselling Psychology in theory and in practice.
------------------------------------	---

<p>Programme Intended Learning Outcomes</p>	<p>Upon completion of the Programme, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. show sensitivity toward and identify the impact of individuation and culture on the practice of psychotherapy in a variety of social and cultural situations; 2. demonstrate awareness of important and unresolved issues in counselling psychology; 3. perform assessment and evaluation in counselling psychology at an advanced level acceptable to the profession; 4. delineate the core concepts of a chosen area in counselling psychology; 5. apply quantitative and qualitative approaches to research in counselling psychology, particular in the realm of evidence-based research; 6. conduct original research in counselling psychology; 7. write a research thesis (under supervision) at the doctoral level on a chosen topic of interest; 8. compose a scholarly paper worthy of publication in a peer-reviewed journal; 9. demonstrate in-depth comprehension of the theories, skills and techniques of at least two therapeutic approaches; 10. demonstrate competence in providing professional services to clients, including assessment, evaluation, psychoeducation, prevention, and intervention; 11. demonstrate competence in providing clinical supervision for students in counselling and counselling psychology at the undergraduate and master's levels; 12. demonstrate awareness of a high standard of professional conduct and ethical concern.
<p>Professional Pathways</p>	<p>Graduates of the Programme will have accumulated sufficient knowledge, practice and research to confidently identify themselves as experts in their chosen area of clinical practice, and be qualified for admission into and/or registration with major professional groups.</p>

Employment Pathways	<p>Students admitted to the Programme are already practising helping professionals, and an enhancement of their academic qualifications would advance their career opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As counselling psychologists in the private sector; • As counselling psychologists in university-operated counselling centres; • As instructors of counselling and psychology in associate degree and degree programmes • As clinical supervisors of undergraduate and taught master's programmes in counselling and counselling psychology or; • As clinical supervisors of counselling centres.
Minimum admission requirements	<p>Applicants for admission to the Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possess a Bachelor's degree or a postgraduate conversion degree in Psychology from a recognized local or overseas university; 2. Possess a Master's degree in Counselling Psychology, Clinical Psychology or Counselling from a recognized local or overseas university; 3. Have earned a GPA of 3.3 or above, or its equivalent, from the aforementioned programmes of study; and 4. EITHER Be currently registered or be eligible to register with the Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPS) as a Counselling or Clinical Psychologist; OR Have completed at least one year of supervised post qualification experience in counselling practice after obtaining the Master's degree in Counselling.
Operator	Hong Kong Shue Yan University