Program Information

Academic Program: Doctor of Philosophy in Cultural Studies
Academic Year: 2026

Select Language: English

Study Scheme Learning Outcomes

Study Scheme

Postgraduate Student Handbook 2026-27 (CUL-I)

FACULTY OF ARTS

Cultural Studies

Study Scheme

M.Phil. – Ph.D. Programme in Cultural Studies (Full-time and Part-time)

Please read the Study Scheme in conjunction with the following emails:

1. "Completing certain Improving Postgraduate Learning modules in the first year of study (for fulfilment of Ph.D. and Taught Doctoral candidacy requirements) with retroactive effect from 2022-23 intake", dated 27 October 2023: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/download/IPL.pdf.

2. "Amendments to Research Data Management Practice and Requirements for Candidacy and Graduation -- applicable to RPg and taught doctoral students admitted in 2025/26 or thereafter", dated 20 February 2026: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/download/Amendments.pdf.

I. Applicable to students admitted in 2026-27 and thereafter

A. M.Phil Student

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. Other Requirements

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.
(d) Students are required to complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Students are required to complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in their first year of study, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online

module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html (under "Research Skills").

(f) Students are required to submit a Data Management Plan (DMP) during the first year of study, with effect from the 2025-26 intake. The final DMP should have been shared to the CUHK community on DMPTool or the relevant platform that CUHK provides when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio to the Graduate School. The guide is available on Library's website: https://libguides.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/rdm/mandate-support.

(g) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Research Office (RO) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

B. Ph.D. Student (Pre-candidacy)

The "candidacy requirement" composes of four major parts, namely, coursework requirement, candidacy examination, and thesis proposal (and oral defence) and stipulated Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module requirements. Students must complete and fulfill the first three parts within the "maximum period for fulfilling candidacy requirements" and complete the stipulated IPL module(s) in their first year of study. Details of the requirement are listed below:

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Second Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**24 units**
CULS8006	
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Third Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Third Years of Attendance:	**18 units**
CULS8003	
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 30 units

2. Candidacy Examination

Ph.D students (pre-candidacy) should complete all required lecture courses or equivalent and pass a candidacy examination.

The candidacy examination shall consist of a three-hour written examination in the area of cultural theories.

After passing the candidacy examination, a thesis proposal must be submitted and defended before an examination board to be constituted by the Graduate Panel. Upon the approval of the thesis proposal, the student will be awarded Ph.D. candidacy.

Students are allowed no more than two attempts at passing the candidacy examinations or parts thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

3. Thesis Proposal and Oral Defense

Passing of thesis proposal and oral defense is mandatory for continuation in the PhD (Post-candidacy) Programme.

4. Other Requirements

Students are required to complete the following Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) modules in their first year of study for partial fulfillment of candidacy requirements:

(a) Students are required to complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in their first year of study, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website:

https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html (under "Research Skills").

(b) Students are required to submit a Data Management Plan (DMP), with effect from the 2025-26 intake. The guide is available on Library's website: https://libguides.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/rdm/mandate-support.

C. Ph.D. Student (Post-candidacy)

1. Coursework Requirement

Thesis research/monitoring courses:
Students are required to take the following thesis research course every term.
Full-time students: CULS8012
Part-time students: CULS8006
Continuing students: CULS8003

2. Other Requirements

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.

(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.

(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.

In addition to completing the IPL modules stipulated for partial fulfillment of candidacy requirements, students are also required to complete the following IPL modules for graduation:

(d) Complete an IPL module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.

(e) Complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Research Office (RO) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

(f) The final DMP should have been shared to the CUHK community on DMPTool or the relevant platform that CUHK provides when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio to the Graduate School. The guide is available on Library's website: https://libguides.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/rdm/mandate-support.

II. Applicable to students admitted in 2025-26

A. M.Phil Student

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. Other Requirements

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate

School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.

(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.

(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.

(d) Students are required to complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.

(e) Students are required to complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in their first year of study, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf.

(f) Students are required to submit a Data Management Plan (DMP) during the first year of study, with effect from the 2025-26 intake. The final DMP should have been shared to the CUHK community on DMPTool or the relevant platform that CUHK provides when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio to the Graduate School. Students are required to have published the data on the CUHK Research Data Repository or an open data repository with a valid Digital Object Identifier (DOI) or other forms of permanent identifier when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio. Upon thesis supervisor's endorsement, students can decide on how much data from the research project is to be published.

(g) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

B. Ph.D. Student (Pre-candidacy)

The "candidacy requirement" composes of four major parts, namely, coursework requirement, candidacy examination, and thesis proposal (and oral defence) and stipulated Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module requirements. Students must complete and fulfill the first three parts within the "maximum period for fulfilling candidacy requirements" and complete the stipulated IPL module(s) in their first year of study. Details of the requirement are listed below:

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Second Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**24 units**
CULS8006	
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Third Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Third Years of Attendance:	**18 units**
CULS8003	
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 30 units

2. Candidacy Examination

Ph.D students (pre-candidacy) should complete all required lecture courses or equivalent and pass a candidacy examination.

The candidacy examination shall consist of a three-hour written examination in the area of cultural theories.

After passing the candidacy examination, a thesis proposal must be submitted and defended before an examination board to be constituted by the Graduate Panel. Upon the approval of the thesis proposal, the student will be awarded Ph.D. candidacy.

Students are allowed no more than two attempts at passing the candidacy examinations or parts thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

3. *Thesis Proposal and Oral Defense*

Passing of thesis proposal and oral defense is mandatory for continuation in the PhD (Post-candidacy) Programme.

4. *Other Requirements*

Students are required to complete the following Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) modules in their first year of study for partial fulfillment of candidacy requirements:

(a) Students are required to complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in their first year of study, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf.

(b) Students are required to submit a Data Management Plan (DMP), with effect from the 2025-26 intake.

C. Ph.D. Student (Post-candidacy)

1. *Coursework Requirement*

Thesis research/monitoring courses:
Students are required to take the following thesis research course every term.
Full-time students: CULS8012
Part-time students: CULS8006
Continuing students: CULS8003

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.

(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.

(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.

In addition to completing the IPL modules stipulated for partial fulfillment of candidacy requirements, students are also required to complete the following IPL modules for graduation:

(d) Complete an IPL module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.

(e) Complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

(f) The final DMP should have been shared to the CUHK community on DMPTool or the relevant platform that CUHK provides when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio to the Graduate School. Students are required to have published the data on the CUHK Research Data Repository or an open data repository with a valid Digital Object Identifier (DOI) or other forms of permanent identifier when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio. Upon thesis supervisor's endorsement, students can decide on how much data from the research project is to be published.

III. Applicable to students admitted between 2023-24 and 2024-25

A. M.Phil Student

1. *Coursework Requirement*

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other

Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.
(d) Students are required to complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Students are required to complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in their first year of study for completion of the University-specified requirement, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf.
(f) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

B. Ph.D. Student (Pre-candidacy)

The "candidacy requirement" composes of four major parts, namely, coursework requirement, candidacy examination, and thesis proposal (and oral defence) and stipulated Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module requirements. Students must complete and fulfill the first three parts within the "maximum period for fulfilling candidacy requirements" and complete the stipulated IPL module(s) in their first year of study. Details of the requirement are listed below:

1. *Coursework Requirement*

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. *Candidacy Examination*

Ph.D students (pre-candidacy) should complete all required lecture courses or equivalent and pass a candidacy examination.

The candidacy examination shall consist of a three-hour written examination in the area of

cultural theories.

After passing the candidacy examination, a thesis proposal must be submitted and defended before an examination board to be constituted by the Graduate Panel. Upon the approval of the thesis proposal, the student will be awarded Ph.D. candidacy.

Students are allowed no more than two attempts at passing the candidacy examinations or parts thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

3. *Thesis Proposal and Oral Defense*

Passing of thesis proposal and oral defense is mandatory for continuation in the PhD (Post-candidacy) Programme.

4. *Other Requirements*

Students are required to complete and pass an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Basics of Research Data Management" in the first year of study for partial fulfilment of candidacy requirements and completion of the University-specified requirement, with effect from the 2022-23 intake. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf.

C. Ph.D. Student (Post-candidacy)

1. *Coursework Requirement*

Thesis research/monitoring courses:
Students are required to take the following thesis research course every term.
Full-time students: CULS8012
Part-time students: CULS8006
Continuing students: CULS8003

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.

In addition to completing the IPL modules stipulated for partial fulfillment of candidacy requirements, students are also required to complete the following IPL modules for graduation:
(d) Complete an IPL module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

IV. Applicable to students admitted in 2022-23

A. M.Phil Student

1. *Coursework Requirement*

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. Other Requirements

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.
(d) Complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Complete an IPL module on "Research Data Management Training". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf. Students are required to complete and pass the module in their first year of studies, with effect from the 2022-23 intake.
(f) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

B. Ph.D. Student (Pre-candidacy)

The "candidacy requirement" composes of three major parts, namely, coursework requirement, candidacy examination, and thesis proposal (and oral defence). Students must complete and fulfill all three parts within the "maximum period for fulfilling candidacy requirements". Details of the requirement are listed below

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. Candidacy Examination

Ph.D students (pre-candidacy) should complete all required lecture courses or equivalent and pass a candidacy examination.

The candidacy examination shall consist of two parts: (i) a three-hour written examination in the area of cultural theories; (ii) a colloquium paper of no less than 8,000 words in English. Topic of the paper shall be agreed between the student and supervisor concerned.

After passing the candidacy examination, a thesis proposal must be submitted and defended before an examination board to be constituted by the Graduate Panel. Upon the approval of the thesis proposal, the student will be awarded Ph.D. candidacy.

Students are allowed no more than two attempts at passing the candidacy examinations or parts thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

3. *Thesis Proposal and Oral Defense*

Passing of thesis proposal and oral defense is mandatory for continuation in the PhD (Post-candidacy) Programme.

C. Ph.D. Student (Post-candidacy)

1. *Coursework Requirement*

Thesis research/monitoring courses:
Students are required to take the following thesis research course every term.
Full-time students: CULS8012
Part-time students: CULS8006
Continuing students: CULS8003

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.
(d) Complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Complete an IPL module on "Research Data Management Training". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/download/IPL-Researchskills.pdf. Students are required to complete and pass the module in their first year of studies, with effect from the 2022-23 intake.
(f) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

V. Applicable to students admitted between 2019-20 and 2021-22

A. M.Phil Student

1. *Coursework Requirement*

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Second Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses from above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **24 units**
CULS8006
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses
First to Second Years of Attendance: **12 units**
CULS6001
First to Third Years of Attendance:
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses
First to Third Years of Attendance: **18 units**
CULS8003
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis

Total: 30 units

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the

General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.

(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.

(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.

(d) Complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research". This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.

(e) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on "Publication Ethics" offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

B. Ph.D. Student (Pre-candidacy)

The "candidacy requirement" composes of three major parts, namely, coursework requirement, candidacy examination, and thesis proposal (and oral defence). Students must complete and fulfill all three parts within the "maximum period for fulfilling candidacy requirements". Details of the requirement are listed below

1. Coursework Requirement

(a) For Full-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Second Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**24 units**
CULS8006	
(Register for 4 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 36 units

(b) For Part-time Students:

(i) Lecture courses

First to Second Years of Attendance:	**12 units**
CULS6001	
First to Third Years of Attendance:	
Any three courses to be chosen from the following:	
CULS6002, 6020, 6030, 6040, 6060, 6070, 6080, 6100, 6110, 6120, 6130	
OR any two courses listed above plus one 3-unit course from other Divisions approved by Division Head	

(ii) Thesis research/monitoring courses

First to Third Years of Attendance:	**18 units**
CULS8003	
(Register for 6 consecutive terms from the first semester of study)	
Continuing students are required to register for CULS8003 carrying 3 units per term until submission of their graduation thesis	
	Total: 30 units

2. Candidacy Examination

Ph.D students (pre-candidacy) should complete all required lecture courses or equivalent and pass a candidacy examination.

The candidacy examination shall consist of two parts: (i) a three-hour written examination in the area of cultural theories; (ii) a colloquium paper of no less than 8,000 words in English. Topic of the paper shall be agreed between the student and supervisor concerned.

After passing the candidacy examination, a thesis proposal must be submitted and defended before an examination board to be constituted by the Graduate Panel. Upon the approval of the thesis proposal, the student will be awarded Ph.D. candidacy.

Students are allowed no more than two attempts at passing the candidacy examinations or parts thereof. Any second attempt must come within six months after the first attempt.

3. Thesis Proposal and Oral Defense

Passing of thesis proposal and oral defense is mandatory for continuation in the PhD (Post-candidacy) Programme.

C. Ph.D. Student (Post-candidacy)

1. Coursework Requirement

Thesis research/monitoring courses:
Students are required to take the following thesis research course every term.
Full-time students: CULS8012

Part-time students: CULS8006
Continuing students: CULS8003

2. *Other Requirements*

(a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Clause 13.0 “Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies” of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.
(b) A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to fulfill the graduation requirement, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.
(c) Students are required to submit a research thesis and pass an oral examination for graduation.
(d) Complete an Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) module on “Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research”. This is an online module and relevant information can be accessed from the website: https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
(e) Students are required to complete an online Research Ethics Training (RET) module on “Publication Ethics” offered by the Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services (ORKTS) and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation. Relevant information can be accessed from the RET website at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/web/.

Course List

Code	*Course Title*	*Unit*
CULS6001	The Making of Contemporary Culture	3
CULS6002	Theories of Representation	3
CULS6020	Topics in Comparative Literature and Arts	3
CULS6030	Topics in Culture, Society & Politics	3
CULS6040	Topics in Cultural Meaning and Interpretation	3
CULS6060	Independent Study	3
CULS6070	Special Topics	3
CULS6080	Topics in Gender Studies	3
CULS6100	The Sexual Body in Arts and Media	3
CULS6110	Thing Theories	3
CULS6120	Negotiating Chineseness	3
CULS6130	Intermediality	3
CULS8003	Thesis Research	3
CULS8006	Thesis Research	6
CULS8012	Thesis Research	12

Study Scheme Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

1. Our research programmes aim to educate researchers to embark on careers that would allow them to become world leaders in their fields, working as university professors, principal investigators in research institutes, senior managers in enterprises, or experts in other professions related to the pursuit and application of knowledge.

2. The University expects **doctoral degree graduates** of research programmes to have acquired in-depth knowledge in a number of major areas of an academic discipline while maintaining a broad understanding of other related fields. Doctoral degree graduates should have accumulated enough educational experience and background learning to be capable of performing independent research to advance scholarship, with global standards. In particular, doctoral graduates should have the ability to identify research trends and opportunities, venture into new research areas when appropriate, define long-term research objectives, formulate original research problems, and originate and develop solution methodologies. Doctoral graduates should be capable of producing research output at a level that can either lead to publications in high-ranking scholastic venues, or to novel applications in relevant industrial, commercial, or other public sectors, or to other forms of useful knowledge transfer to society. They should have gained proficiency in techniques of knowledge dissemination through presentation and writing and some teaching experiences through student tutoring.

3. The University expects **master's degree graduates** of research programmes to have acquired advanced knowledge in major areas of an academic discipline while maintaining a broad understanding of other related fields. Master's degree graduates should have gained enough background knowledge to enable them to perform research with minimal supervision. In particular, they should have the ability to formulate individual research tasks and to develop solution methodologies under minimal supervision. Master's degree graduates should be capable of producing original, innovative research output, some of which may lead to publication in well-respected scholastic venues. They should have gained proficiency in techniques of knowledge dissemination through presentation and writing.

4. For graduates of research programmes at both doctoral and master's level, communication and language skills at a level appropriate to university graduates are expected already at the time of admission. In particular, fluent communication skills are expected in the language(s) essential to their research areas. In general, a high level of proficiency in English is expected as it is commonly regarded as the default international research language. Ability in a second language is encouraged.

Course Information

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