

**CityUHK's Chinese History and Cultural Heritage Stream  
in the Master of Arts in Chinese and History Programme (PKU Curriculum)**

**I. Overview**

This curriculum is designed and taught by the Department of History, Peking University. The Department of History, Peking University offers more than ten courses for the Chinese History and Cultural Heritage Stream every year, and a significant part of the courses are taught in collaboration with renowned academic institutes, including the National Library of China, The First Historical Archives of China, The Palace Museum, and the Dunhuang Academy. This curriculum combines academic learning with hands-on practices. Students will not only receive interdisciplinary trainings but also have opportunities to engage in research activities in the museums and archives in Beijing. Students will be enrolled as visiting students during their study at PKU and are required to complete a total of 30 credit units in Semester A and Semester B.

**II. Courses for Reference**

30 credit units are required in total (Core courses: 9 credit units; Electives: 21 credit units):

|                     | Course Title   | Credit Units | Course Introduction   |
|---------------------|--|--------------|---|
| <b>Core Courses</b> | History of China: Peking University Master Lecture Series  | 3            | This program invites world-renowned scholars from Peking University to teach a survey Chinese history course, so that the students have a chance to learn from many scholars in one single course. This course covers multiple aspects of Chinese history, such as political, institutional, economic, social, and foreign relations aspects. The development of Chinese history through different stages will be emphasized, and students are expected to have a clear and deep understanding of the framework of Chinese history after this course. |
|                     | Historical Materials and Historiography (in collaboration with the National Library of China and The First Historical Archives of China) | 3            | This course teaches the students about the features of various types of historical sources and enhances the students' abilities to search, collect, analyze, and use the historical materials. In this course, students will make field visits and get access to the collections of the National Library of China and The First Historical Archives. The field experience will help them to make good use of the sources independently in the future.   |
|                     | Cultural Heritage Conservation and Preservation  | 3            | This course covers various topics on culture heritage and their conservation, including historical architecture, ancient tombs, historical painting and frescoes,   |

|                  |   |   |  |
|------------------|---|---|--|
|                  |   |   | cave temples, and more. This course also invites relevant industry experts to hold seminars on the digital preservation of cultural heritage and the integration of cultural and creative industries.  |
| <b>Electives</b> | <b>Module 1: History and Literature (minimum: 3 credit units)</b>   |   |  |
|                  | Pre-Qin History and Archaeology                                     | 3 | This course offers lectures and seminars on subjects of prehistoric humans, pre-Qin cities and capitals, the existence of the Xia dynasty, inscriptions on oracle bones and bronze objects, institutional systems of the Shang and Zhou, etc. This course introduces “the dual evidence method,” combining archaeology and historical documents to reconstruct the pre-Qin history.  |
|                  | Emperors and Officials: Chinese Bureaucratic System and its Culture | 3 | Focusing on the bureaucratic political system, the course introduces the basic structure, the history of changes, and the characteristics of the Chinese imperial system through all dynasties.  |
|                  | The History of Beijing: the capital city                            | 3 | A special course on the history of Beijing. Through lectures and field trips, this course examines the origins and developments of Beijing as the capital city of several unified dynasties. The course also discusses the architecture and customs in Beijing, and explores the relationship between preserving Beijing's historical heritage and modern urban development.   |
|                  | Regional History and Global History                                 | 3 | A cutting-edge course provided by the Department of History, Peking University. Through seminars on important topics, such as the economy of Jiangnan in the Ming and Qing dynasties, trade along the Silk Road, and the history of the Inner Asian steppe, students are expected to learn the theoretical approaches of regional history and global history from multiple perspectives across disciplines and broaden their research horizon. |
|                  | Chinese Mythology and Folklore                                      | 3 | This course examines ancient Chinese myths and legends systematically, in particular from multiple aspects of literature, aesthetics, philosophy, art, and folklore.   |

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | Selected Readings of <i>The Book of Songs</i>   | 3 | This course guides students into close reading of the representative parts of <i>The Book of Songs</i> and analyzes them in the historical context. This course also explores the relationship between <i>The Book of Songs</i> and the culture of the Zhou Dynasty and its literary characteristics.  |
|  | Tang Poetry and Tang History  | 3 | Focusing on the Tang poetry, the course integrates historical records and excavated artifacts to explore the evolution of the Tang state and social thoughts through the transformation of the poetic style of the Tang Dynasty and its connections with the Tang history.   |
|  | Buddhism and the Chinese Culture  | 3 | The course offers lectures and seminars on the formation and development of Buddhism, its basic concepts, and its main influence on Chinese culture. Students are expected to understand the influence of Buddhism on Chinese culture and its contemporary value.  |
| <b>Module 2: Cultural Heritage and Cultural Relics (minimum: 3 credit units)</b> |   |   |  |
|  | Ancient Artifacts and the Social Life<br>(In collaboration with the Central Academy of Fine Arts)                 | 3 | Based on new archaeological discoveries and recent research findings, this course explores the social life, social customs, and cultural relic systems of each historical period. The types of artifacts to be covered include jade, bronze, lacquer, fabric, ceramics, gold and silver.   |
|  | Ancient Chinese Clothing Culture<br>(In collaboration with Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology)               | 3 | This course systematically introduces the development of clothing in each dynasty of Chinese history. It analyzes the representative clothing of each period, and the political, economic, artistic, technological, ethnic and other factors that influence the clothing style of each period.   |
|  | Appreciation and Connoisseurship of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy<br>(In collaboration with The Palace Museum) | 3 | This course focuses on the collections from the Forbidden City and The Palace Museum. It introduces the methods of identifying historical paintings and calligraphy and the connoisseurship. It provides key information about important calligraphers and painters through the dynasties and their works, and shows the basic composition of painting and calligraphy, inscriptions, seals and decoration. It also presents examples of the |

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  |   |   | forgery and misidentification of painting and calligraphy.   |
|  | The Ming and Qing Palace Architecture and the Interior Furnishings<br>(In collaboration with The Palace Museum)   | 3 | This course investigates the three parts of the Forbidden City of the Ming and Qing Dynasties: architecture, decoration, and furnishings. The course analyzes the architecture and decoration from the historical, artistic, cultural, and philosophical aspects.  |
|  | Dunhuang Arts and the Culture of China's Western Regions<br>(In collaboration with the Dunhuang Academy)  | 3 | This course focuses on the Dunhuang documents and Dunhuang cave murals. Through a systematic analysis of the materials, this course presents the outstanding artistic achievements and the glorious history of the West regions in ancient China.  |
|  | Scholar-Officials and Literati: their career and lifestyle  | 3 | This course discusses the lifestyle, aesthetic attitudes, and philosophical thoughts of the Chinese scholar-officials, a unique group of social elites in historical China. The materials covered in this course include historical records, miscellaneous notes, calligraphy, paintings, and textual and visual evidence on tea ceremony, seal carving, and gardens.                                |
| <b>Module 3: Fieldwork and Practices (minimum: 3 credit units)</b> |   |   |  |
|  | Cultural Heritage: Research Practices and Applications  | 3 | This course provides field trips to cultural relics protection units and archaeological sites in and outside of Beijing. Students have the opportunity to conduct research on academic investigation, cultural relics protection, museum exhibition, and cultural and creative design.   |
|  | Intangible Cultural Heritage Workshop: Experiencing and Innovation<br>(In collaboration with the China Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Association) | 3 | Collaborating with the China Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Association and the China Intangible Cultural Heritage Museum, this course offers practical teaching and learning experiences on intangible cultural heritage. The workshop allows students to experience various intangible cultural heritage skills in person and to explore innovative forms of non-traditional inheritance. |