

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### 1. THE UNIVERSITY

Hong Kong Baptist University, the former Hong Kong Baptist College, was founded in 1956 and assumed full University status in November 1994. The University is a fully government-funded institution. The degree programmes were fully validated by the United Kingdom Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA) before 1990 and then by the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation (HKCAA). In September 1993, the institution achieved the self-accrediting status. In addition to undergraduate studies, a variety of postgraduate programmes have been offered since 1989-90 leading to the Master's and Doctor's degrees.

### 2. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The medium of instruction for formal classroom teaching is English, except for courses that are granted exemption. For students admitted from 2013 onwards, the media of instruction for courses taken are shown on academic transcripts. For a course of which the medium of instruction is not English, the medium of instruction is denoted by a single letter attached to the end of the course code. For example, 'C' stands for Cantonese; 'F' for French; 'G' for German; 'I' for Italian; 'J' for Japanese; 'P' for Putonghua; and 'S' for Spanish; whereas 'N' denotes courses that do not involve formal classroom teaching. This letter denotation is not applicable for courses taught in English and for courses exempted or with units transferred. The letter denotation for all media of instruction can be found at the following website:

<http://gs.hkbu.edu.hk/upload/students/post/moi-code.pdf>

### 3. UNIT AND STUDY LOAD

The number of units assigned to a course is indicative of the contact time with a teacher and/or the study time associated with that course on a weekly basis over a period of one semester/trimester/term. In general, a single unit represents attendance once a week throughout the semester/trimester/term at a lecture lasting 50 minutes. Study load on part-time basis normally ranges from 6 to 8 units per semester/trimester/term while the number of units is about double for full-time studies.

### 4. GRADING SYSTEM

#### 4.1 Grading Scheme

Letter grades are used to indicate the results of assessment. The number of grade points gained by a student in a particular course corresponds to the letter grade.

Letter Grade	Academic Performance	Grade Point Per Unit ❶	Grade Point Per Unit ❷	Letter Grade	Academic Performance	Grade Point Per Unit
A	Excellent	4.00	4.00	S	Satisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
A-		3.70	3.67	U	Unsatisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
B+	Good	3.30	3.33	W	Withdrawn (w.e.f. 2000-2001)	Not included in GPA calculation
B		3.00	3.00	WS	Withdrawn Satisfactory	Not included in GPA calculation
B-	Satisfactory	2.70	2.67	WF	Withdrawn Failing	0.00
C+		2.30	2.33	YR	Year Grade (temporary) (applicable to the first semester/trimester/term component of a year course and to courses that span over more than 1 year)	Not included in GPA calculation
C		2.00	2.00	NR	Not Yet Reported (temporary)	Not included in GPA calculation
C-	Marginal Pass	1.70	1.67			
D		1.00	--			
F	Failure	0.00	0.00			
I	Incomplete (temporary)	Not included in GPA calculation				

#### 4.2 Course Remark Code

DTR	Wing Lung Bank International Institute for Business Development (IIBD) transfer course
EX	Exempted
EXT	Course has been approved for extension to the following semester/trimester/term
FP	Course taken for points
IN	Course included for fulfilling coursework requirement
IR1, 2, ...	Course has been repeated for improvement of GPA
IS1, 2, ...	Course grade be used to supersede the course grade with corresponding IR remark code in the calculation of the cumulative GPA
RP	Repeat course
RR1 or 2	Course must be repeated or another course must be taken to replace this course
SS1 or 2	Course grade be used to supersede the course grade with corresponding RR remark code in the calculation of the cumulative GPA
TR	Transfer units

#### 4.3 Grade Point Average

The Grade Point Average (GPA) is an important indicator of the academic standing of a student. It is obtained by adding all the grade points gained and then dividing the result by the total number of units attempted. When calculated for a given semester/trimester/term, it is known as the *semester/trimester/term GPA*. When calculated cumulatively for all courses attempted, it is known as the *cumulative GPA*.

##### 4.3.1 Taught Postgraduate or Professional Doctorate Programme

For graduation, students must pass all courses and at the same time attain the minimum cumulative GPA as required by their programme of study. The minimum cumulative GPA for taught postgraduate programme is 2.50 while that for professional doctorate programme is 2.70❶ or 2.67❷. Courses with grades D or F must be repeated. The original grades or the repeated grades, whichever are higher, will be included in the cumulative GPA calculation.

##### 4.3.2 Research Postgraduate Programme

Prior to graduation, PhD and MPhil students admitted from the academic year of 2009 are required to fulfil the coursework requirements and must attain a minimum GPA score of 2.70❶ or 2.67❷. For details of the coursework and GPA requirements, please visit our website at [www.gs.hkbu.edu.hk](http://www.gs.hkbu.edu.hk).

**Notes:** ❶ Applicable to students admitted before the academic year of 2012-2013.

❷ Applicable to students admitted in or after the academic year of 2012-2013.