## **Subject Description Form**

Subject Code	APSS6222						
Subject Title	DSW Thesis Seminar and Proposal Development II						
Credit Value	2						
Level	6						
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	APSS6221 DSW Thesis Seminar and Proposal Development I						
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment				
	1. DSW Thesis Proposal (Part III & IV)	100 %	0%				
	<ul> <li>The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned;</li> <li>The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and</li> <li>Student must pass all the components if he/she is to pass the subject.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	1. Under the supervision of thesis supervisors, students are required to formulate a DSW thesis proposal based on an original study concerning issues in social work profession, practice or education.						
	2. Graduate seminars are organized to help students to formulate their ideas, integrate what they learn from various subjects and articulate possible themes and research methodology in carrying out their research proposals.						
Intended Learning Outcomes	<ul> <li>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</li> <li>a. grasp the specific research methodology and design of a practice-oriented research in a practice issue in the field of social work.</li> <li>b. understand the nature of literature reviews, construct a theoretical framework, choose an appropriate research methodology.</li> </ul>						

## Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

As a doctoral thesis in social work, there are three crucial elements, practice wisdom, practice-oriented research and related issues in social work practice, profession and education. These three elements are dynamically related formulating the cruxes of the doctoral thesis in social work.

Practice/ Action Research in Social Work Practice, Profession and Education

Practice Wisdom in Social Work Practice, Profession and Education Current Issues and
Arguments in
International and
Indigenized Social Work
Practice, Profession and
Education

These three elements are inter-related in formulating the social work doctoral thesis. Practice-oriented research implies it can be a qualitative study, and/or a quantitative study on social work practice, profession, and education. Practice wisdom relates to knowledge, insights, values and intervention generated or accompanied within social work practice, professional reflection as well as teaching and learning in social work education. Related issues and arguments refer to current controversies in social work practice, profession and social work education. To name a few, it may be controversies such as evidence based practice versus reflective practice, clinical social work versus generic social work; professionalization versus de-professionalization of social work, as well as globalization versus indigenization of social work. Within these three inter-related components, there may be numerous combinations of research topic and concern. Below are some examples;

- an action research on social work practice or related services/intervention in social welfare agencies;
- a survey on attitude of social work students/ social workers in related issues;
- a qualitative study on client participation in social action or community development; or
- a quantitative studies on related issued in social problem, social welfare, and social development.

## Teaching/Learning Methodology

With the guidance of the coordinator of the DSW thesis research seminar, students will participate in discussion on research methodology and research design of the DSW thesis proposal of individual students. Students will be invited to present their literature review, theoretical framework, and research methodology. They will receive feedbacks from the coordinator and other students.

	APSS6222 DSW Thesis Seminar and Proposal Development II (2 credits) is to teach students how to do a good literature review, choose an appropriate research methodology and design, and write a good research proposal.						
Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed				
Outcomes			a		b		
	1. DSW Thesis Proposal (Part III & IV)	100 %	<b>✓</b>		<b>√</b>		
	Total	100 %					
	Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:						
	Students need to submit Part III & IV of their thesis proposal and are required to present their proposal to the coordinator and other students.						
Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:						
	Seminar			6 Hrs.			
	Other student study effort:						
	Literature Review and Methodology			54 Hrs.			
	Proposal Writing			26 Hrs.			
	Sharing Session				4 Hrs.		
	Total student study effort				90 Hrs.		
Reading List and References	References						
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	Anastas, J. W., & Kuerbis, A. N. (2009). Doctoral education in social work: what we know and what we need to know. <i>Social Work</i> , <i>54</i> (1), 71-81.						
	Anastas, J. W. (2012). Does social work need a "Practice Doctorate"? C. Social Work, 40, 268-276.						
	Beddoe, L. (2011). Investing in the future: Social workers talk about research <i>British Journal of Social Work</i> , 41, 557-575.						
	Beddoe, L., & Harington, P. (2012). One step in a thousand-mile journey: Can civic practice be nurtured in practitioner research? Reporting on an innovative project. <i>British Journal of Social Work</i> , 42, 74-93.						
	Boyer, E. L. (1997). <i>Scholarship reconsidered: priorities of the professoriate</i> . The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.						

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- Department of Applied Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. (2012). *Doctor of Social Work—Definitive Programme Document for Cohort 2012/2013*.
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- Rubin, A., & Babbie, E. (2011). *Research Methods for Social Work* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson/Brooks/Cole. HV11 R84 2011
- Shaw, I. et al. Ed. (2010). The SAGE Handbook of Social Work Research.
  London: Sage.
  HV11 S274 2010

- Shek, D. (2003). Chinese people's explanation of poverty: The perceived causes of poverty scale. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 13(5), 622-640.
- Shek, D. (2008). Percevied parental control and parent-child relational qualities in early adolescents in Hong Kong: Parent gender, child gender and grade differences. *Sex Roles*, *58*, 666-681.
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