

Master of Social Sciences in Behavioral Health

INFORMATION SESSION

2026/27 Admission



Department of Social Work & Social Administration
Centre on Behavioral Health
The University of Hong Kong



Program Director

Prof. Rainbow Ho

Professor, Department of Social Work & Social Administration
Director, Centre on Behavioral Health, HKU
Program Director, MSocSc (Behavioral Health)
Program Director, Master of Expressive Arts Therapy



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Deputy Program Director

Adrian Wan, PhD.

Lecturer, Dept. Social Work & Social Administration/ Centre on Behavioral Health
Fellow, AdvanceHE (HEA)

Certified Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC) Teacher
Clinical Supervisor, Self-Compassion in Psychotherapy (SCIP)
Deputy Program Director, MSocSc (Behavioral Health)

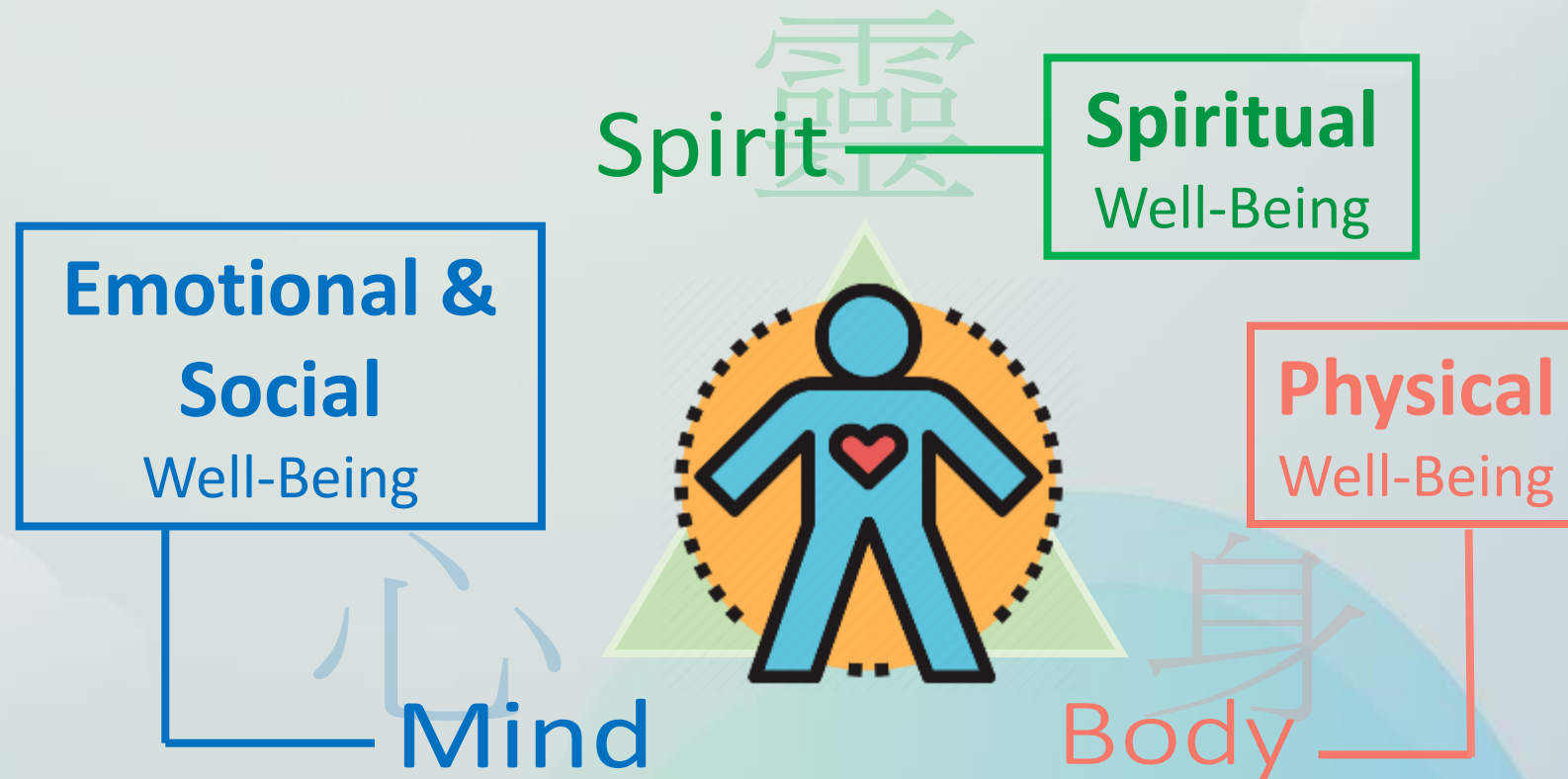


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What is Behavioral Health?

Holistic Health/ Holistic Wellness



BMS in caring & health-oriented communities



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The background features a gradient from light blue on the left to light green on the right. Large, overlapping, wavy shapes in shades of blue and green frame the top and bottom corners, creating a modern, organic feel.

The Master of Social Sciences in Behavioral Health Program

Program Objectives

The curriculum integrates traditional wisdom with updated scientific knowledge, introducing culturally sensitive intervention approaches

- To provide a **systematic and comprehensive training** in behavioral health with a solid, culturally relevant and holistic orientation.
- To develop an **evidence-based and integrative model of clinical practice** in their workplace.
- To promote the **betterment of body-mind-spirit well-being** at both individual and community levels.



Learning Outcomes

Holistic and eclectic approach



Experiential learning



Knowledge enhancement & personal growth



Integration of theory & practice



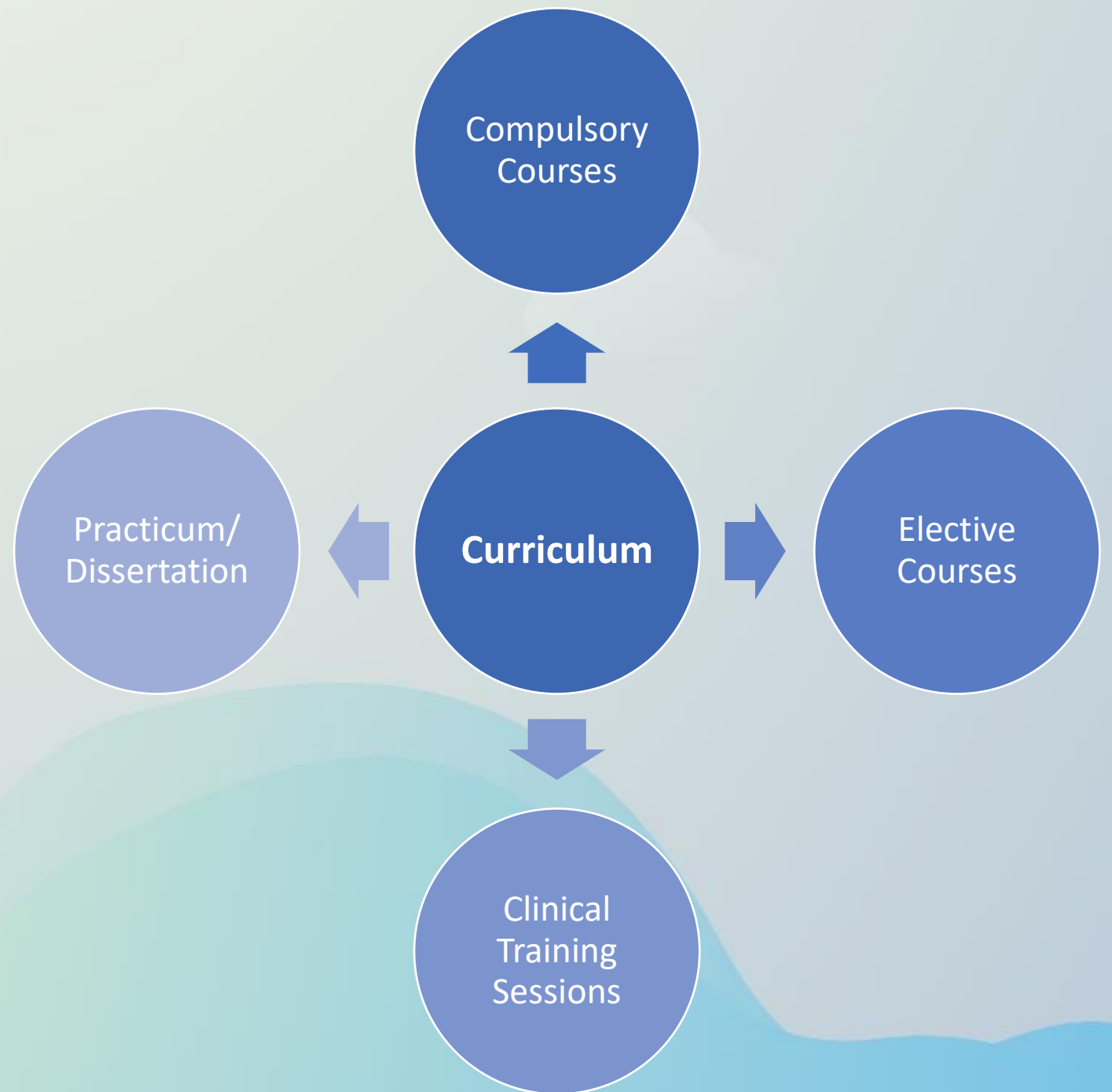
Multidisciplinary Teaching Team with Research & Clinical Competence

Clinical Psychologist, Social Worker, Dance Movement Therapist, Play Therapist, Art Therapist, Hypnotherapist, Academic researcher, etc.



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Curriculum Structure 2026/27

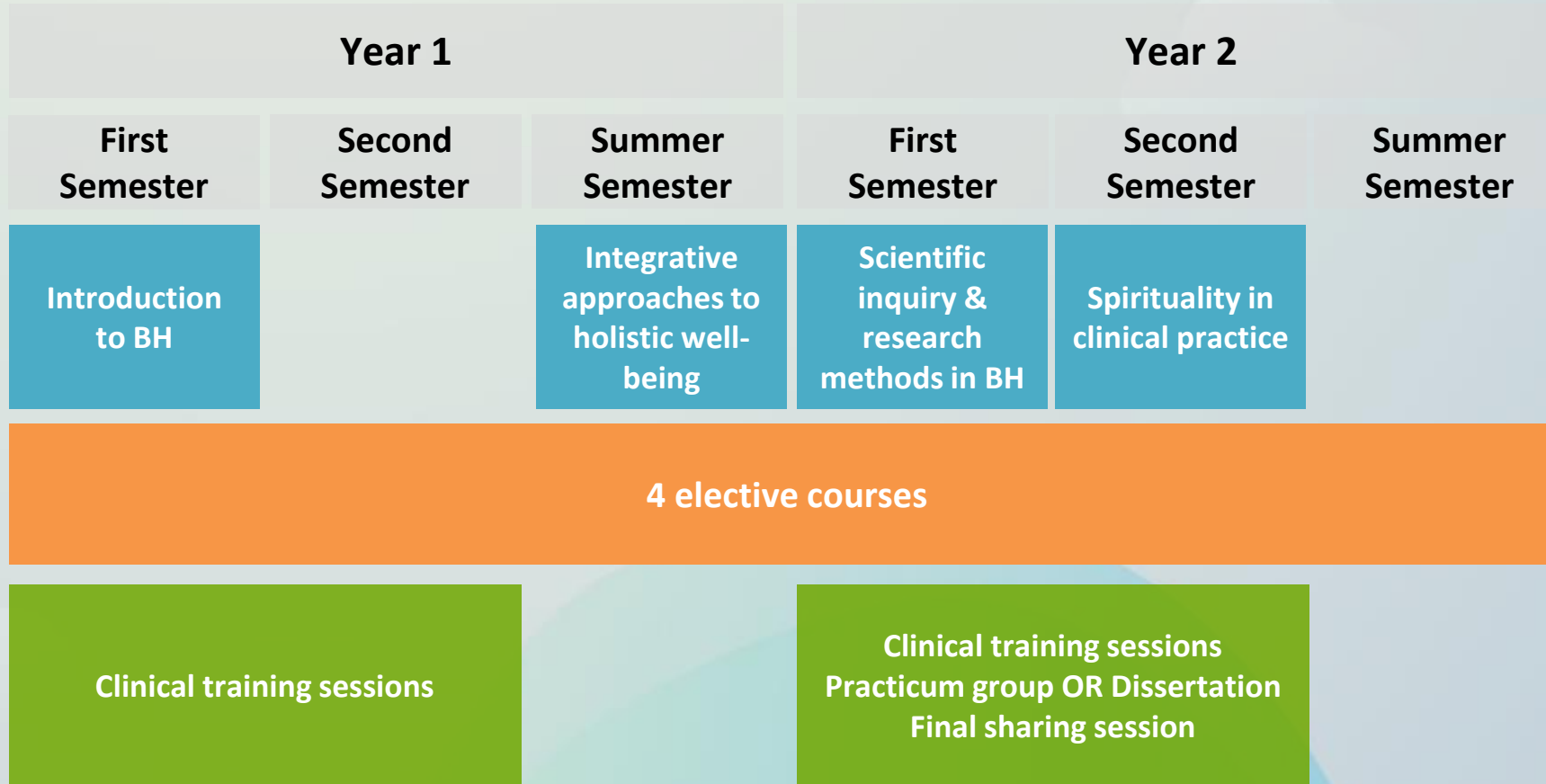


1-Year Full-time

First Semester	Second Semester	Summer Semester
Introduction to BH	Spirituality in clinical practice	Integrative approaches to holistic well-being
Scientific inquiry & research methods in BH		
4 elective courses		
Clinical training sessions Practicum group OR Dissertation Final sharing session		



2-Year Part-time



Elective Courses

- Abnormal psychology
- Assessment in clinical setting
- Contemporary perspectives on death, dying and bereavement
- Counselling and psychotherapy
- Fundamentals of art therapy
- Fundamentals of dance and movement therapy
- Fundamentals of music therapy
- Fundamentals of drama therapy
- Play therapy
- Theories and practices in positive psychology and strength-based interventions
-etc.

**For course descriptions, please refer to the
program website at
[https://web.socialwork.hku.hk/programme-
admission/msocsc-behavioral-health/](https://web.socialwork.hku.hk/programme-admission/msocsc-behavioral-health/)**



Practicum or Dissertation

Option 1: Practicum Group

- A group project in holistic healthcare under supervision
- Group work (6-8 students) with no less than 220 hours of problem-based learning
- Timeline
 - Full-time: Sep 2026 – Jun 2027
 - Part-time: Sep 2027 – Jun 2028

Clinical training
sessions

Final project
sharing session

Option 2: Dissertation

- An individual, independent study under supervision
- Timeline
 - Full-time: Sep 2026 – Jun 2027
 - Part-time: Sep 2027 – Jun 2028



Teaching Arrangement



Mode of teaching

- Face-to-face
- Lecture
- Experiential learning



Time

- Mostly weekday evening (7- 10pm)
- Some weekend classes



Venue

- HKU Campus



Our Students



Physicians, nurses, doctors, social workers, psychologists, counsellors, TCM practitioners, physio/ occupational/speech therapists, physical fitness instructors, police officers, teachers, human resources professionals, business coaches, etc.



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Admission to the Program

Admission

Program Entrance Requirements

- A **Bachelor's degree** or the equivalent;
- Preferably a minimum of two years of relevant post-qualification working experience; and
- An academic and work background in a field related to healthcare or human service profession is preferred.



Supporting Documents

https://swab.hku.hk/tola/servlet/ApplicantDownloadForm/getForm?pREF_CODE=R306&pDOCUMENT_TYPE=SUPPORTDOCUMENT&pVIEW=Y

- Applicants are required to follow the instructions and upload the supporting documents in PDF format via the system within 7 working days
- Two referees' contact information should be filled in the online application, and the referees will be contacted via the system.



☐	Identity Documents ☐ Local applicants: Hong Kong ID Card ☐ Non-local applicants from Mainland China: Mainland ID Card/Passport ☐ Non-local applicants from other countries/regions: Passport Please refer to the Admissions Office for the categorisation of local and non-local applicants.
☐	Official Transcripts ☐ Completed transcript with award/conferment information of your Undergraduate studies ☐ Completed transcript(s) of Taught Postgraduate / Associate Degree / Higher Diploma programme (Only for applicants who have also obtained Master's degree / Associate Degree / Higher Diploma programme.) ☐ Latest available transcript for a degree that is currently in progress or has not yet been conferred Transcript legends, keys or grading scales which are normally available on the back of the transcript. Otherwise, you are required to provide other documents e.g. student handbook.
☐	Degree Certificate(s) For applicants whose degrees have been awarded/conferred at the time of application, a copy of the Degree Certificates should be provided. ☐ Graduate certificate of Undergraduate studies ☐ Graduate certificate(s) of Taught Postgraduate/ Associate Degree/ Higher Diploma programme (Only for applicants who have also obtained Master's degree / Associate Degree / Higher Diploma programme.) In addition to the Degree Certificates, applicants whose qualifications were awarded by universities or comparable institutions in Mainland China, the following documents are also required: ☐ Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部學歷證書電子註冊備案表), in both Chinese and English versions, issued by the China Higher Education Student Information (學信網) ; and ☐ Online Verification Report of Higher Education Degree Certificate (中國高等教育學位在線驗證報告), in both Chinese and English versions, issued by China Higher Education Student Information Please set the validity period of the above-requested reports to six months or the longest available duration. For non-local applicants from Mainland China whose qualifications were awarded by overseas universities/institutions, the following document is also required:
☐	☐ Overseas Credentials Evaluation Report (國外學歷學位認證書) issued by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE) (教育部留學服務中心); or ☐ Given the processing time required by CSCSE, if the Report is not yet available by the document submission deadline, an email or a text message sent by CSCSE after payment, confirming that the application of the Report has been successfully initiated. Upon receipt of the Overseas Credentials Evaluation Report, applicants should submit the document by post as soon as possible.
☐	English Language Requirements Applicants with qualifications from universities or comparable institutions outside Hong Kong, where the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, are required to obtain <u>valid and satisfactory results</u> from one of the following examinations: ☐ TOEFL (University's TOEFL code is 9671) / IELTS / GCE / IGCSE / Cambridge Test of Proficiency in English Language (For the acceptance range of performance for respective examinations, please refer to the requirements of university/respective programmes).
☐	Two referee reports sent via the online application system Two referees have been nominated on the online application system. Two referees' contact information had been filled in the system.
☐	Other relevant documents (if appropriate) ☐ Curriculum vitae ☐ Personal statement

Timeline

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3 (part-time only)
Deadline of online application	12:00 noon 1 December 2025	12:00 noon 2 February 2026	12:00 noon 4 May 2026
Admission test & interview	Early to Mid-December 2025	Early to Mid-February 2026	Early to Mid-May 2026
Announcement of provisional offer	Late December 2025	Late February 2026	Late May 2026

**Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview*

Online Application

<https://portal.hku.hk/tpg-admissions/programme-details?programme=master-of-social-sciences-in-the-field-of-behavioral-health-socsc&mode=0>



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the HKU TPG Admissions website. The header includes the HKU logo and name in Chinese and English, followed by 'TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE ADMISSIONS'. The main navigation menu contains links for 'ABOUT HKU', 'PROGRAMME INFORMATION', 'FINANCE & STUDENT SUPPORT', 'EVENTS', and 'APPLYING'. A search icon is also present. The main content area features a video thumbnail of a student writing on a whiteboard. Overlaid text on the video reads: 'Faculty of Social Sciences', 'Master of Social Sciences in the field of Behavioral Health', and 'MSocSc(BH) | Full-time & Part-time'. A button labeled 'Add to my list' is visible in the bottom right corner of the video area.



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Program Website



HKU SWSA Department of Social Work and Social Administration The University of Hong Kong 香港大學社會工作及社會行政學系

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MSocSc (Behavioral Health)

Home > Programmes & Admission > MSocSc (Behavioral Health)

MSocSc (Behavioral Health)

- Overview
- Requirements**
- Required Documents
- Tuition Fee
- Apply

Curriculum

Teaching Staff

Applicants shall hold a Bachelor's degree of HKU or an equivalent qualification from a comparable institution, and preferably have a minimum of two years of relevant post-qualification working experience. Candidates with qualifications other than a Bachelor's degree will be considered on their individual merits. Qualifying examinations



Voices from Our Students



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The University of Hong Kong

Enquiry

Contact person:	Ms. Mona Chan Program Secretary
Tel:	(852) 3917 3077
Email:	chanmona@hku.hk
Webpage:	https://web.socialwork.hku.hk/bh

