

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF ARTS

Criteria for the Award of a Taught Master's Degree with Distinction

The award of a taught postgraduate qualification with an overall distinction is a recognition of excellence, a relatively rare achievement.

A. For curricula using letter grades and grade points system

To obtain an overall distinction, the candidate must

- (a) have received a CGPA of at least 3.60; and
- (b) have received a grade of A- (grade point 3.70) or above in the capstone experience; and
- (c) have not received any grade below C+ (grade point 2.30) in all courses attempted.

All courses attempted, including failed courses, are counted towards the CGPA.

The Board of the Examiners for the degree may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award an overall distinction to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose CGPA falls below 3.60 by not more than 0.1 grade point, provided that conditions (b) and (c) are also met.

B. For curricula using 3-tier system of Distinction, Pass or Fail

To obtain an overall distinction, the candidate must

- (a) have received distinction* in more than half of his/her work, measured by the total number of credits of all courses attempted, including failed courses; and
- (b) have received distinction* in the capstone experience; and
- (c) have not received any grade below a pass of C+* in all courses attempted.

* Distinction, pass or fail is the grading system shown on the academic transcript. If a curriculum uses letter grades as marking scale for individual assessment activities or to represent the overall result of a course internally, A+, A and A- will be deemed as equivalent to distinction; B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+ and D will be deemed as equivalent to pass.