

Updated in October 2023



# Programme Overview

- The BSc (Applied Child Development) [(ACD)] programme is a **two-year top-up degree** for holders of Higher Diplomas or Associate Degrees in the field of Early Childhood Education to upgrade their academic qualifications.
- Successful applicants shall be admitted directly to **Year 3** (i.e. there is no Year 1 or Year 2 admission).



# Professional Recognition

Graduates of the BSc(ACD) programme will:

- (i) be eligible for registration as **Child Care Workers** and **Child Care Supervisors** under the Child Care Services Regulations;
- (ii) be considered to have met the required BEd(ECE) requirement for **new KG principal appointment\***.

\* Based on EDB's official document, "[Professional Upgrading for Newly-appointed Kindergarten Principals](#)", a locally recognised Bachelor Degree / higher degree plus a locally recognised Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education [PGDE(ECE)] or C(ECE) qualification can be considered to have **met the required BEd(ECE) requirement for new KG principal appointment**.



# Special Features

- The BSc (ACD) programme
  - provides students with a strong foundation in the **knowledge, skills and attitude** required for working with a wide diversity of children and families.
  - allows students to gain insights into the theories of **child development** and acquire deep understanding of the interrelationships among **theory, research, practice and policy**.



# Programme Structure (120 credits)



Major in  
Applied Child  
Development

Language  
Enhancement

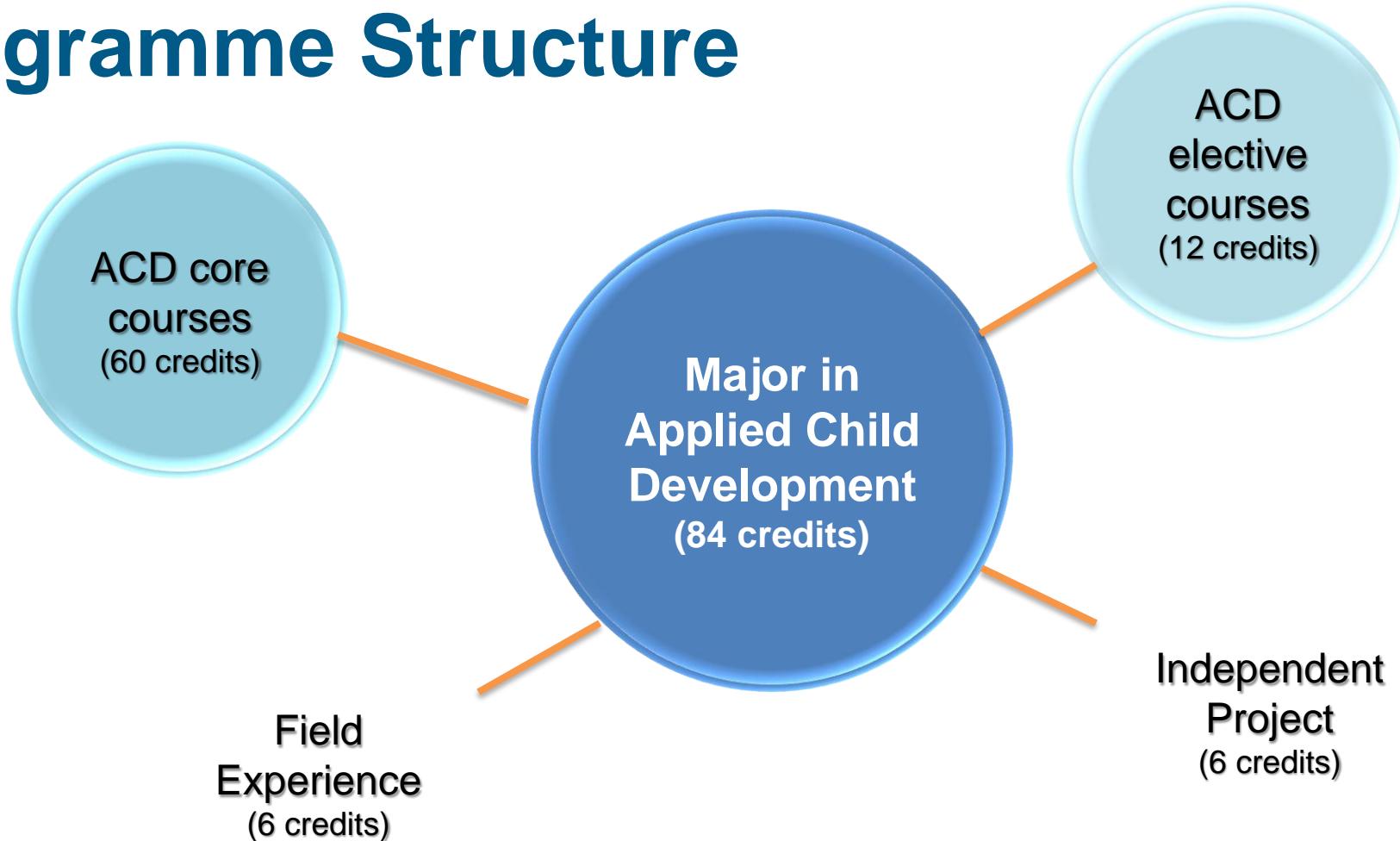
Common Core

Artificial  
Intelligence  
Literacy

Electives



# Programme Structure



# ACD Core Courses

- The programme offers courses that cover a variety of topics including:
  - Perspectives on Early Childhood Development and Learning
  - Cognitive and Language Development
  - Social and Emotional Development
  - Physical Development
  - Introduction to Research Methods
  - Observation and Assessment of Children and Early Childhood Programmes
  - Development and Education of Young Children with Special Needs
  - Child Development and Public Policy
  - Developmental Neuroscience



# ACD Elective Courses

- The programme offers elective courses that cover a variety of topics. Examples of elective courses offered include:
  - Bilingualism in Young Children
  - Children, Arts and Technology
  - Children's play and learning
  - Guidance and Counseling
  - Contemporary Issues in Child Development



# Field Experience

- Field experience provides students with the opportunity to **apply and integrate** the knowledge gained from coursework to research and practice.
- Field experience sites include **research organisations, non-profit organisations and other professional settings**.
  - Special educational needs, family support services, children's rights and protection
- Your work will be supervised by the Field Supervisor at the placement site and by the Faculty Supervisor through a series of seminar meetings.



# Independent Project

- In second year of study, students complete an **independent research project** under the supervision of a Faculty mentor in a self-selected area of interest.



# Other Learning Opportunities

- Experiential Learning in the summer
- Exchange programme in the summer
  - Universities attended by BSc(ACD) students before:
    - University of California, Los Angeles
    - The University of British Columbia, Canada
    - Yonsei University, Korea
    - University of Helsinki, Finland



# Further Information

- Tel: (852) 3917 2545
- Email: [bscacd@hku.hk](mailto:bscacd@hku.hk)
- Website: <https://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/bsacd>

Programme Director

Dr Lilian Chau

[bscacd@hku.hk](mailto:bscacd@hku.hk)

