Student Reflections

Mr Louis CHENG • Hong Kong
General Manager
Rosebery Hotel Kowloon and Rosebery on the Park Hong Kong

The D.HTM offers a truly dynamic centre for global tourism studies. This world-class faculty equips practitioner students such as myself with top-notch academic knowledge and theories, and helps us apply them in our work. Our insights and firsthand experience in turn contributes to and enhances the School’s academic excellence. I also enjoy the stimulating and lively interaction with fellow students from various occupational and cultural backgrounds.

Ms Masaki HIRATA • Japan
Executive Director
Japan National Tourism Organisation Hong Kong Office

The D.HTM programme helped me make a smooth transition from practitioner to academic. The top-quality course was tailor-made to meet students’ needs in terms of both scholastic research and industry practice, and my experience was valued by the world-renowned professors at the SHTM who enabled me to understand and get the most benefit from it. The professional guidance offered by these professors has made my doctorate study at the School an enjoyable journey.

Ms Catherine Zhuo LT • Macau
Lecturer
Institute for Tourism Studies

The D.HTM is truly a unique and truly cooperative programme, not only characterised by academic and research excellence, but also by engaging professors and striking networking opportunities. I chose to attend because of the unique way the programme is designed to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and practice. I believe the knowledge and experience I gained during my studies will be a valuable asset for me and my institution. I will always be thankful for everything I have gained from being associated with the School.

A.H. GALIKHUSUAM • Indonesia
Lecturer, Faculty of Social Science Education
Indonesia University of Education

This world-leading D.HTM programme, both practical and academic, is invaluable for those looking for further opportunities in the hospitality industry. With a meticulously programmed curriculum, intensive learning opportunities are offered by some of the world’s most celebrated professors to top students working at the forefront of the global industry. What more to say? This is the best D.HTM available at present.

Ms Bannie KIM • Republic of Korea
President and CEO
MECI

I decided to join the D.HTM programme because of its great academic curriculum and reputation. As well as the essential academic knowledge offered by SHTM professors, I’ve also benefited from the insights gained from my classmates and industry professionals whom I crossed paths with during my studies. The School has become the place to learn, share and contribute towards research in tourism and hospitality as well as helping students develop themselves as experts in their fields.

Ms Manisa PiuCHAN • Thailand
Lecturer, Department of Tourism
Chiang Mai University

The D.HTM programme offered a truly dynamic centre for global tourism studies. This world-class faculty is equipped with strong networking opportunities. I chose to attend because of the unique way the programme is designed to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and practice. I believe the knowledge and experience I gained during my studies will be a valuable asset for me and my institution. I will always be thankful for everything I have gained from being associated with the School.

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Doctor of Hotel and Tourism Management
Setting New Standards in Hospitality and Tourism Education

School of Hotel and Tourism Management

The Doctor of Hotel and Tourism Management (D.HTM) has been designed for academics, senior industry executives and senior staff in governmental and non-governmental hospitality and tourism organisations. The programme focuses on developing innovation, creativity and needed research skills within an Asian context. Individual subjects have been designed to integrate academic-, research- and decision making-oriented studies. Small class size encourages greater collaboration between staff and students. Students have the opportunity to develop international networks through contact with fellow students and staff. They can also internationalise their experience through residual subjects.

Mixed-mode – Flexible Study Option to Meet Student Needs

The mixed mode format is a unique feature of the D.HTM. The mixed mode study option enables students to study on a full-time basis, part-time basis or switch between full and part-time study. Non-local part-time students can complete the D.HTM while continuing their current employment.

The Programme

Subjects are offered by regular or intensive block study mode. The regular mode follows the traditional study format of offering a subject over the course of a semester. The intensive, block release mode requires students to attend PolyU twice a semester for four to six days each.

Specialism Stream

Students can choose from one of two specialism streams or elect an integrated study option, by taking a subject from each stream. The ‘Education/NTO’ stream has a stronger research and education focus and includes education and research seminar subjects. The ‘Industry’ stream includes subjects that are more relevant to senior industry officials including innovation and management seminars.

Election

Students can take elective subjects to broaden their knowledge base. Electives can be taken either from subjects offered in a specialism stream, advanced statistics, independent study, or subjects from the MSc in International Hospitality Management and MSc in International Tourism and Convention Management programmes. In addition, some students may take a subject from other doctoral programmes with the approval of the programme leader.
Students must complete 51 credits to earn a Doctor of Hotel and Tourism Management. The programme consists of nine subjects (27 credits) and a 24-credit thesis. Subjects have been designed to develop the students' professional competence to an advanced level.

Students must complete five compulsory subjects, two subjects from the specialist stream and two elective subjects. The thesis consists of two parts, a proposal and the formal thesis. The programme also includes two compulsory residential schools. The first one is held at the start of the D-HTM and introduces students to each other, staff and the D-HTM programme. The second one involves an overseas study tour as part of the Asian Paradigm in Hospitality Management.

**Programme Structure**

Students must complete five compulsory subjects, two subjects from the specialist stream and two elective subjects. The thesis consists of two parts, a proposal and the formal thesis. The programme also includes two compulsory residential schools. The first one is held at the start of the D-HTM and introduces students to each other, staff and the D-HTM programme. The second one involves an overseas study tour as part of the Asian Paradigm in Hospitality Management.

**Core Subjects**

- HTM6001 Residential Workshop
- HTM6002 Theories and Concepts in Tourism
- HTM6004 Environmental Analysis and Strategies in Hotel and Tourism Management
- HTM6005 The Asian Paradigm in Hospitality Management
- HTM6006 Quantitative Research Methods for Hotel and Tourism Management
- HTM6007 Qualitative Research Methods for Hotel and Tourism Management

**Education/NTO Stream Specialism**

- HTM6003 Hotel and Tourism Management Education
- HTM6008 Hotel and Tourism Management Research Seminar

**Industry Stream Specialism**

- HTM6010 Innovations in Hospitality Management Solutions
- HTM6011 Hotel and Tourism Senior Executive Seminars

**Electives (Two electives from the following sets of subjects)**

- HTM6009 Independent Study in Hotel and Tourism Management
- HTM6014 Structural Equation Modeling

Specialist subjects from the other specialisms (i.e. students in the ‘Education/NTO’ stream may select HTM6010 and/or 6011, and students in the ‘Industry’ stream may select HTM6003 and/or HTM6008

Subjects from the MSc in International Hospitality Management and MSc in International Tourism and Convention Management

A maximum of 1 doctoral level subject from outside the SHTM with approval of the Programme Leader

Students who have not successfully completed an MSc level research methods subject or an MSc level research project/thesis must take HTM582 – Research Methods as one of their elective options

**D-HTM Thesis**

The thesis is a single piece of work. It demonstrates the candidate’s ability to undertake a significant piece of original research that provides insights into professional practice and/or applies theoretical and practical knowledge to the solution of a significant applied problem. The thesis reflects the candidate's knowledge and understanding of the related literature and research methods appropriate to the investigation. It will normally be up to 70,000 words in length and of a standard that its findings can be published in leading academic journals.

**Admission Requirements**

Students should possess an MSc in Hospitality Management, Tourism and Convention Management or the equivalent.

In addition, students are required to have:

- a minimum of one year full-time teaching experience in tourism and/or hotel management at a recognised post-secondary institution plus at least one year of work experience at the supervisory or managerial level in the hotel, tourism or related industries.

OR

- Substantial and relevant work experience (of normally not less than four years at the supervisory or managerial level in the hotel, tourism or related industries).

OR

- at least 5 years of teaching experience in tourism and/or hotel management.

**English language requirement**

If English is not the applicant's first language or if the Bachelor's or Master's degree was not from a programme taught in English, then the following proof of language proficiency is required:

- A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of at least 580 for the paper-based test, or 237 for the computer-based test, or 92 for the iBT-based test;

OR

- A Band Score of at least 6.5 overall in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

**Studentships and Tuition**

**Teaching Postgraduate Studentship (TPS)**

The SHTM offers TPS to selected full-time D-HTM students. The awards are competitive and are granted based on academic merit, financial need, previous research and work experience, etc. TPS recipients are expected to participate in teaching, research, administration and other school activities.

**Financial support for conference attendance**

The SHTM provides financial support on a competitive basis for D-HTM students to attend international conferences and present their research findings. The maximum support offered for an accepted paper is HK$10,000 to cover the registration, travel and accommodation expenses related to conference attendance.

**Disclaimer:** PolyU reserves the right to change or withdraw the TPS/financial support for conference attendance at any time. In case of any dispute/disagreement, PolyU's decision is final.

**Full-time non-local students are eligible to work in Hong Kong**

Full-time non-local students are permitted to take up part-time employment on campus for not more than 20 hours per week throughout the year, and employment during the summer months without any limit placed on work hours or location.

**Tuition Fee**

The total tuition fee for the D-HTM is HK$397,200 (approximately US$51,255). This is calculated on the basis of HK$7,200 per credit point, plus fees for the residential workshop and the overseas study tour. Students who have been admitted to the programme are required to pay a registration fee of HK$17,200, which covers the tuition fee for 6 credits and fees for the residential workshop and the overseas study tour.

Please note that these fees are subject to revision.