Slide 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

D E P A R T M E N T   O F
COMPUTER SCIENCE

Project/Dissertation Enrollment Briefing
(for full time students admitted in 2018)

Slide 2

Why we are here today?

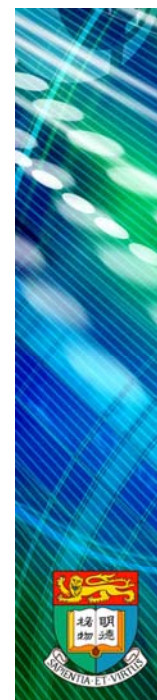### New type of Capstone for 2018 Sep intake Project (COMP7705)

Slide 3

How to get your MSc(CS)?

Students are required to complete 72 credits of courses selected from the syllabus which must include capstone experience.

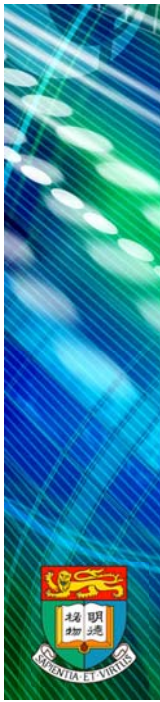Students can study in one of the following enrollment modes:

- 8 Courses (48 credits)* + Dissertation (24 credits)
- 10 Courses (60 credits)* + Project (12 credits)

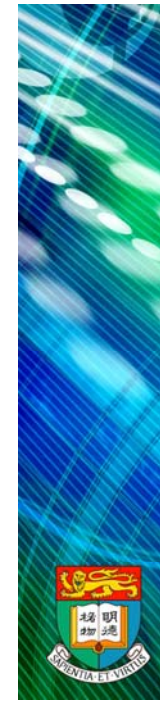*Each course normally carries 6 credits*

Slide 4

Capstone experience

- Compulsory
- Either 24 credits dissertation or 12 credits project (for 2018 Sep intake)
- Specialized streams must complete the dissertation/project under the same stream
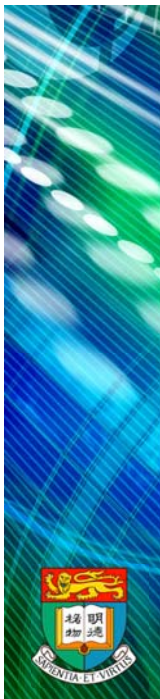
Purpose of today's briefing

- Course enrollment for Semester 2 starts in Dec
- You need to decide: Project or Dissertation
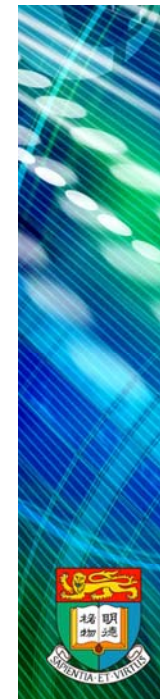- For Project, you need to take 10 courses

Do I need to decide now? YES

- If you join the Programme in Sep 2018 and you plan to complete 10 courses by Aug 2019, you can get your MSc(CS) degree by Sep 2019, and be able to get the Graduate Certificate by Dec 2019 and attend our graduation dinner
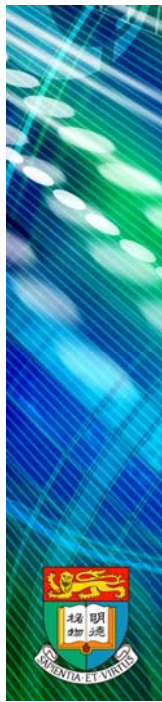- You cannot have internship in Summer 2019

Project (COMP7705)

What is a Project?

- **Group** project (1-5 students) with a supervisor
- Can be of the following nature:
    - Applied research to solve a "practical problem"
    - An engineering solution to solve a problem
    - Empirical evaluation of some known principles/theories
    - Software development
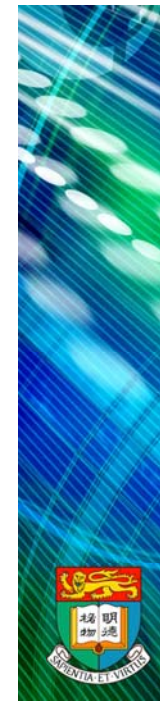   - Data analysis
    - Any work that is "practical"

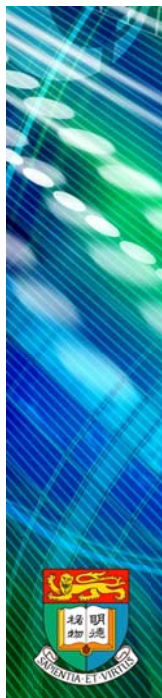Dissertation: an **individual** piece of research work

Project (COMP7705)

- Duration: 2 semesters
  - Second Semester & Summer Semester
- Must start in 2nd semester, i.e. Jan 2019
- Work in Group
  - Same study mode (all members are full-time students)
- Internship is not allowed after enrollment
- Self-propose topic, can seek advice from potential supervisor

Project duration

- Only starts in 2nd semester of the academic year, i.e. mid-Jan
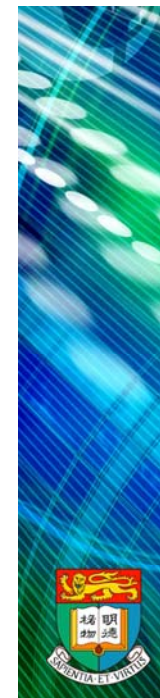- Must completed by summer semester of the same academic year, i.e. August 2019

Supplementary workshops (Compulsory)

English Language Workshops (both of the following)

- Workshop on dissertation writing
- Workshop on presentation and proofreading

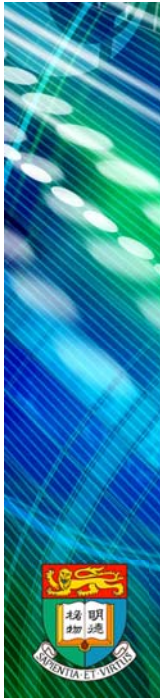*Technical Workshops (one of the following)*

- Python
- System administration

How to start?

1. Decide on the choice of Dissertation/Project option
2. Form a group
3. Find a potential supervisor, contact by yourself or seek advice from Programme Directors/Associate Directors
4. Submit an enrolment form and a proposal on the topic
5. Confirmation of project topic and supervisor
6. Start your project, you are on a very tight schedule

Also, plan your study

1. Most of you will take 6 courses in the coming 2 semesters
2. And will complete the Project
3. You need to work very hard
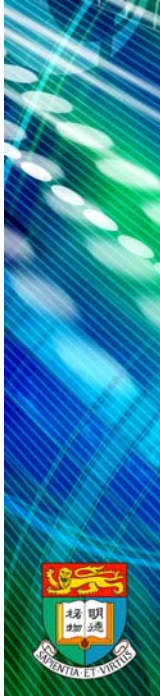4. But you can get your Certificate by Dec 2019

What happen if I cannot complete the Project?

- You will "**Fail**"
- There will be "**no extension**"
- You will have to redo a new project in Jan 2020 with a new group
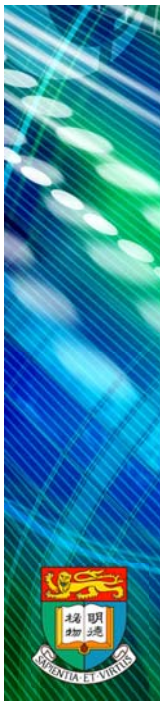- So, don't fail your project

Progress monitoring

- You will meet with your supervisor regularly
- You will give regular presentations in Semester 2 and Summer Semester
- It will form part of your assessment
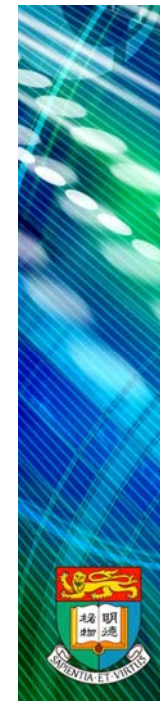- Each member of the Group is expected to spend about 300 learning hours on the Project

Dissertation (COMP7704)

Dissertation (COMP7704)

- Duration: 3 – 5 semesters
- Research-oriented
- Individual
- You may select a topic from the list or self-propose a topic
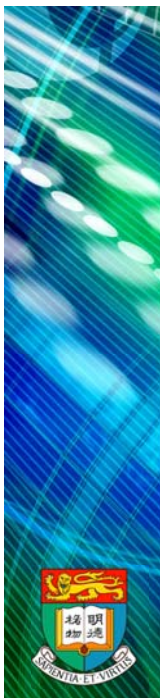- Earliest date to complete the MSc(CS) degree: Dec 2019
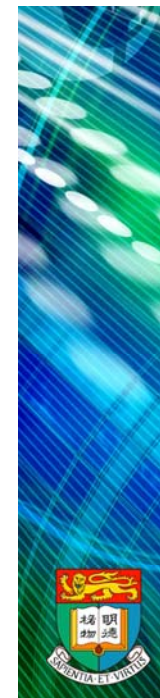
Supplementary workshops

Dissertation
- ✓ All English language workshops +
- ✓ All technical workshops

Full-attendance is required

When will you graduate?

- If you start Jan 2019, and spend Jun-Nov 2019 in HKU
- You can complete by Dec 2019, and Collect your Graduate Certificate in Dec 2020
- Participating in internship are required to postpone submission
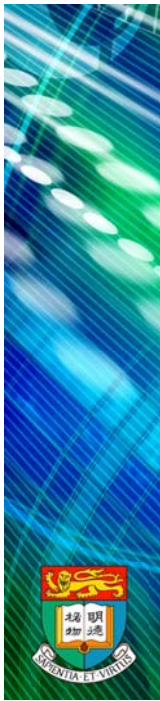- Extension is allowed subject to supervisor and Programme Director approval

Change

Dissertation
- Change the enrolled dissertation within 2 weeks after the dissertation is allocated

Project
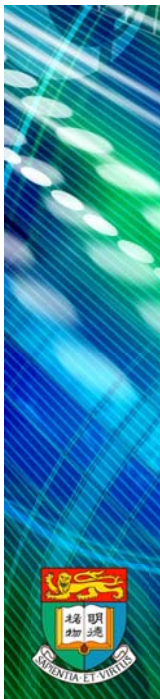- Change the group members is not allowed after the end of Semester 2

Fee payment
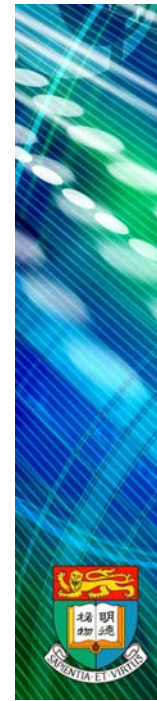
Two installments

Enrolment semester & following semester

- Dissertation ($22,000 x 2 = $44,000)
- Project ($11,000 x 2 = $22,000)

All paid fees are not refundable

If you fail,

- Resubmission fee is 25% of the course fee of the Dissertation/Project

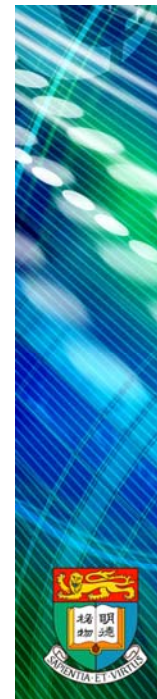- Failed at a second attempt → Recommended for discontinuation of studies

Financial support

- Used for purchasing equipment/CS server application
- Items to be purchased should be endorsed by the supervisor
- All purchased materials remain the property of the university and must be returned after use

FAQ