

## SWRB-Recognised HD Programme Offers Valuable Fieldwork Experience

“Our society today looks very different from the one 10 years ago. In the face of new social issues stemming from increasing diversity and changing social fabric, our community demands more committed and competent social workers to take care of those in need. This is one of the main reasons behind the launch of the HD in Social Work in the 2016/17 academic year,” said Dr Luk Kit-ling, HKCC Lecturer and Programme Leader.

Dr Luk remarked that in view of the strong community demand for social work education, HKCC aims to offer a practice-oriented programme to prepare students for a career in the social work profession. With Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB)’s recognition of the programme, graduates will be eligible for registration as Registered Social Workers. They may also articulate to bachelor’s degree programmes in social work offered by PolyU or other local universities.

By teaching the latest theories and concepts, the HD in Social Work serves to give students a holistic understanding of contemporary social work practices. It also puts due emphasis on cultural sensitive practices to enable graduates to deal with the socially disadvantaged groups from diverse backgrounds. To integrate theory with practice, the

programme requires each student to complete at least 700 hours of fieldwork placement in a social welfare organisation. The service beneficiaries range from new immigrants, underprivileged families, rehabilitation patients to other vulnerable groups. Students will learn how to interact with their service targets, identify needs, and develop and execute service plans.

“There are many benefits in allowing students to put theory into practice in real-life situations. Students may start out with one set of viewpoints, and come back from their fieldwork with a vastly different opinion. In some cases, they may find that their fieldwork experience challenges their existing values. This is a very important learning process,” said Dr Luk, “Students therefore must be able to navigate controversial issues while maintaining neutrality. As such, topics like social work ethics and moral conflicts are addressed in a number of subjects.”

“Social work is a rewarding but challenging field of work. Above all, a social worker should truly care about people and their plights, stay aware of social trends, and be introspective and



Dr Luk Kit-ling, HKCC Lecturer and Programme Leader of the HD in Social Work  
HKCC講師及社會工作高級文憑課程統籌陸潔玲博士

optimistic,” said Dr Luk. To this end, the HD in Social Work is designed to arm students with not only knowledge, but also a reflective, adaptable mentality, not to mention a strong support network of coaches and peers who can offer encouragement throughout a student’s social work journey.

### 社會工作者註冊局認可高級文憑課程 為學生提供寶貴的實習經驗

「今天的社會與十年前相比有很大差別，日漸多樣化及不斷變遷的社會結構，衍生了新的社會問題，我們需要一班意志堅定和能幹的社會工作者，去關懷有需要的一群，這便是HKCC於2016/17學年推出社會工作高級文憑課程的主要原因。」HKCC講師及課程統籌陸潔玲博士說。

陸博士表示，由於各界對社會工作教育有殷切需求，HKCC旨在提供一個以實踐為主導的課程，為同學的社會工作職業生涯做好準備。新的高級文憑課程獲社會工作者註冊局認可，畢業生將有資格申請成為註冊社工，亦可報讀由理大或其他本地大學開辦的社會工作學士學位課程。

社會工作高級文憑課程教授最新的理論和概念，讓同學全面了解當代社會工作者的工作常規。課程亦著重文化敏感度的培訓，使畢業生能夠關切來自不同社會背景的弱勢羣體。另外，課程內容結合理論與實踐，每位同學須在社會福利機構完成最少700小時的實習培訓，服務對象包括新移民、貧困家庭、復康病人以及其他弱勢羣體。同學將學習如何與服務對象互動相處，並了解他們的需要，從而制訂和執行服務計劃。

陸博士說：「同學在現實生活中實踐理論，獲益良多。同學可能在學習初期抱有一套觀點，實習後卻持截然不同的意見。有時實習經驗更可能令他們懷疑自己現有的價值觀，

這些都是非常重要的學習經歷。故此，同學在探索具爭議性的問題時，應學懂保持中立，而課程的多個科目亦涵蓋社會工作倫理和道德衝突等課題。」

陸博士補充：「社會工作是一項饒有意義且極具有挑戰的工作。社會工作者需要擁有一夥關懷別人的心，懂得體恤他人的困境，並留意社會動向，同時保持自我反省和樂觀的心境。」為此，社會工作高級文憑課程不單傳授學術知識，更會培養同學的反思和適應能力，而導師及同伴團隊亦會提供緊密的支援，不時向投身社會工作服務的同學給予鼓勵。