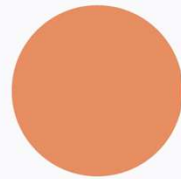


Bachelor of Science in Applied Child Development (A202)

Introduction (August 2026)



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

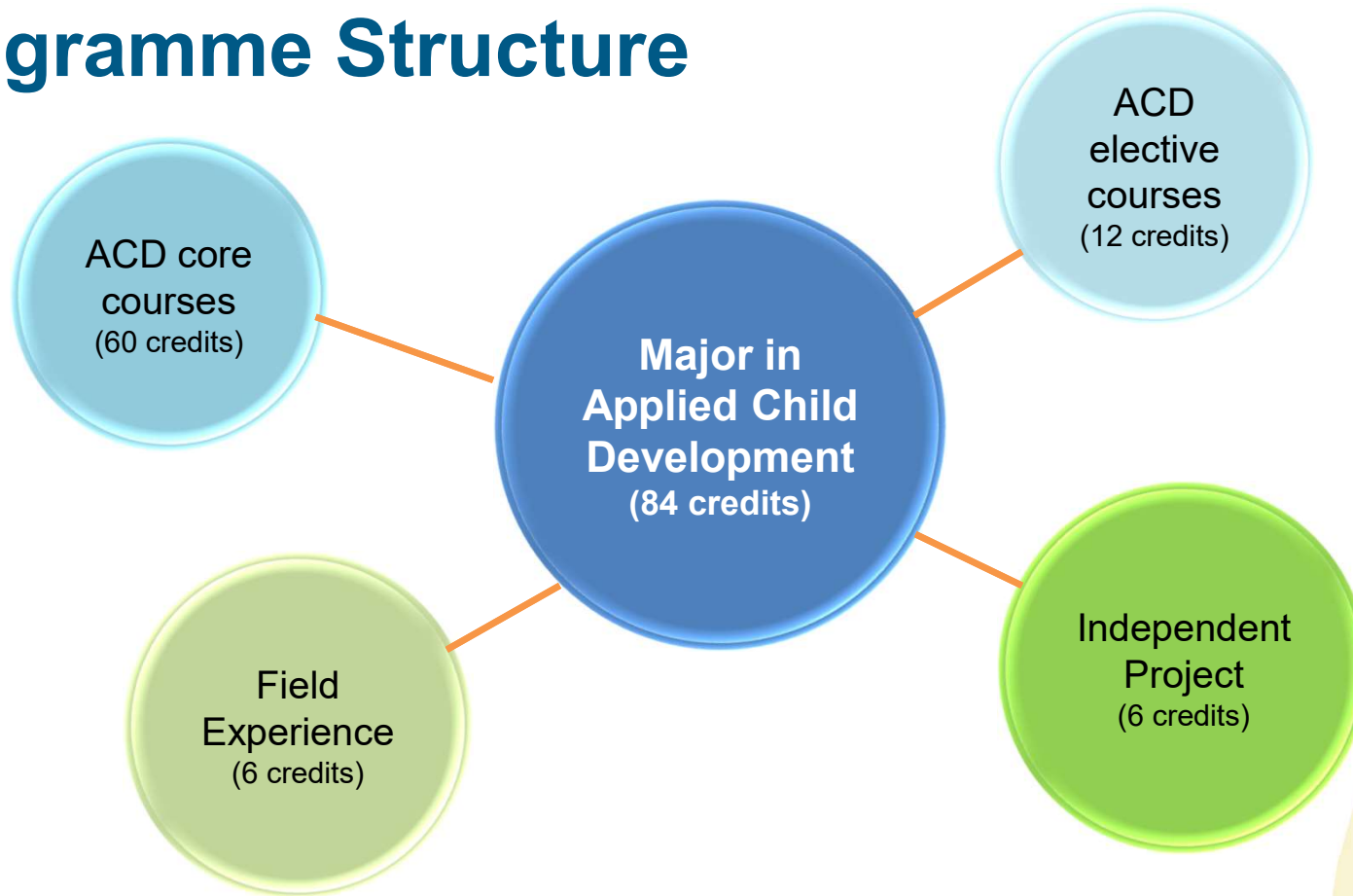
Common Core

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
- Website: <https://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/bsacd>

Programme Director
Dr Lilian Chau
bscacd@hku.hk

