

# THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Professional Development Programmes

Professional development and training are offered at three different levels at the university.

*a. Academic Staff*

URL: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/pdc.html>

CLEAR offers a Professional Development Course (PDC) for incoming faculty members. The PDC comprises two 4-hour workshops, one exploring the teaching context of CUHK (the mission and values of university education, approaches to curriculum design and development and an understanding of CUHK students), and the other discussing techniques and strategies in teaching, including the latest educational technology. In addition, there is a practicum component, and participants can choose one among four options: (1) to take part in a teaching analysis, in which a senior teaching colleague will be invited to observe and provide feedback on the participant's teaching; (2) to prepare a statement of teaching philosophy, in which participants outline their own educational values and techniques; (3) to participate in and reflect on at least two seminars or workshops on teaching and learning offered by CLEAR; or (4) to conduct a group/individual project on topics of common interest concerning teaching and learning.

In every semester, CLEAR will offer seminars / workshops for all teaching staff at the university on various topics that promote excellent teaching practices.

*b. Teaching support staff (Research Postgraduate Students)*

The university also offers a Professional Development Course for Teaching Assistants. The course is a collaborative effort between CLEAR, and academic departments that employ teaching assistants in their courses. CLEAR staff discusses with new TAs pedagogical issues that they will encounter in class, and individual academic departments also provide subsequent teaching support, such as teaching analysis, when necessary. In addition, the graduate school organises an Improving Postgraduate Learning programme, which consists of components that are also useful for teaching support staff.

*c. Research supervisors*

The University also provides support to teaching staff who carry research supervision responsibilities, especially those supervising postgraduate students for the first time in

their career. A workshop on research postgraduate supervision was added in 2013 as a new, recommended component of the Professional Development Course for incoming assistant professors. The workshop provides a practical overview of “best research supervision practices”, and includes sharing on research supervision by seasoned CUHK professors.