

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
(BSocSc)**

*These regulations apply to students admitted to the BSocSc curriculum in the academic year 2015-2016 and thereafter.*

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)

---

**Definitions**

**SS1<sup>(1)</sup>** In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of BSocSc, unless the context otherwise requires -

‘Core departments’ means the Departments of Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work and Social Administration, and Sociology.

‘Course’ means a course of study, with a credit value expressed as a number of credit-units as specified in the syllabus.

‘Credits’ means the value assigned to each course to indicate its study load relative to the total study load under a degree curriculum. The study load refers to the hours of student learning activities and experiences, both within and outside the classrooms, and includes contact hours and time spent on assessment tasks and examinations.

‘Pre-requisite’ means a course or a group of courses which candidates must have completed successfully or a requirement which candidates must have fulfilled before being permitted to take the course in question.

---

**Admission to the degree**

**SS2** To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Social Sciences, candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) complete the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow.
- 

**Period of study**

**SS3** The curriculum shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years.

---

**Completion of the curriculum**

**SS4**

- (a) Candidates shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 5 of the Regulations for
- 

<sup>(1)</sup> This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

First Degree Curricula<sup>(2)</sup>.

- (b) Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits of courses.
- (c) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty, or except in the final semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements may be fewer than 24 credits.
- (d) Candidates may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, and/or further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of the Faculty, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 288 credits for the normative period of study specified in SS3, save as provided for under SS4(e).
- (e) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of the Faculty may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 432 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in SS3.
- (f) Candidates shall normally enrol in not more than 108 credits of introductory courses in the first three years of study.
- (g) Candidates shall not enrol in any introductory courses in the final year of study.
- (h) Candidates shall complete not fewer than 96 credits of courses for the disciplinary major including all pre-requisites, capstone experience and Social Innovation and Global Citizenship requirements unless otherwise stated in the syllabuses.

### Selection of courses

**SS5** Candidates who wish to change their selection of courses at the beginning of each semester may do so up to 2 weeks after the commencement of the semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons accepted by the Faculty Board. Candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade.

### Assessment

**SS6** Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 8(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

**SS7** Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner

- i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
- ii) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or

<sup>(2)</sup> The specific requirements are spelt out in the syllabuses.

- iii) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments;  
or
- iv) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

**SS8** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading. There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

---

#### Discontinuation of studies

**SS9** Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:

- i) failed to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
  - ii) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
  - iii) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in SS3.
- 

#### Absence from examination

**SS10** Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall normally be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

---

#### Advanced standing

**SS11** Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully in approved institution of higher education elsewhere in accordance with UG 2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula but advanced credits will not be included in the calculation of GPA.

---

#### Credit transfer

**SS12** Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

---

## Award of the degree

**SS13** To be eligible for award of the degree of BSocSc, candidates shall have:

- (a) achieved a cumulative GPA of 1.00 or above;
  - (b) passed a minimum of 240 credits; and
  - (c) satisfied the requirements in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.
- 

## Honours classification

**SS14** (a) Honours classification shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree in accordance with the following Cumulative GPA scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying equal weighting:

<i>Class of honours</i>	<i>CGPA range</i>
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

(b) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Cumulative GPA and the Board of Examiners for the degree may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Cumulative GPA falls below the range stipulated in SS14(a) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.

(c) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the degree requirements shall be posted on Faculty noticeboards.

---

## **SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

---

### **I. Objectives**

The degree of Bachelor of Social Sciences has a flexible curriculum structure designed to provide students with many choices in course selection. The objectives of the BSocSc curriculum are to enable students to develop capabilities in:

- one or more core social science disciplines;
- critical intellectual inquiry and life-long learning;
- tackling novel situations and ill-defined problems;
- critical self-reflection and greater understanding of others;
- intercultural communication, multicultural understanding and global citizenship;

- collaboration and communication; and
- leadership and advocacy for improvement of the human condition.

## II. Curriculum requirements and structure

The regulations specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for completion of the BSocSc degree curriculum. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses. Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits. They shall enroll in not fewer than 24 and not more than 30 credits of courses for each semester other than the final semester as specified in SS4. The normal semester load is 30 credits.

Components	No. of credits
A. University Requirements	
i. Core University English course	6
ii. English in the Discipline course	6
iii. Chinese Enhancement course	6
iv. Common Core courses	36
B. Disciplinary Major	
i. Introductory course	6-12
ii. Pre-requisites	6-12
iii. Advanced courses	36-48
iv. Capstone requirement	6-18
v. Social Innovation and Global Citizenship	24
C. Free electives / other major / minor	90
Total:	240

### A. University requirements (Regulation UG 5)

Candidates are required to complete all the courses listed below, which include the three language enhancement courses and the Common Core courses as prescribed in Regulation UG 5 “Requirements for Graduation” of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

#### 1. Introductory courses

##### a) Language enhancement courses

Core University English\* (6 credits)  
- CAES1000. Core University English

CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)

OR

CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (for non-Cantonese Speaking Students)

OR

CUND9003 Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (for non-Cantonese Speaking Students)

Candidates who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or

who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CSSC9001 may apply for exemption and take a credit-bearing Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international and exchange students), or take an elective course in lieu.

*\* Candidates who have achieved Level 5\*\* in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, will be automatically exempted from this requirement and should take an elective course in lieu, see Regulation UG6.*

b) Common Core Courses

Six 6-credit Common Core Courses, selecting not more than (36 credits)  
one course from the same Area of Inquiry within one academic year  
and at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of  
Inquiry within the first three years of studies.

2. Advanced courses

Language enhancement courses

Take one of the following English in the Discipline courses<sup>#</sup> (6 credits)  
- CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery  
- CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports  
- CAES9923. Writing Psychology: Text and Context  
- CAES9924. Language and Style of Narrative Journalism  
- CAES9930. Dissertation Writing in the Social Sciences

<sup>#</sup> *Candidates declaring double Majors can, if they fail in the ED course for one of the Majors, either (i) re-take and successfully complete that failed ED course, or (ii) successfully complete the ED course for the other Major which is finally and successfully declared, irrespective of whether the Major is offered within or outside of the candidates' home Faculty.*

**B. Disciplinary majors**

A disciplinary major is defined as completing not fewer than 96 credits of courses including the introductory course, pre-requisites, capstone experience and Social Innovation and Global Citizenship requirements as prescribed in the syllabuses. It is mandatory that candidates pursue a major from the list below:

China Studies (Social Sciences stream)  
Geography  
Politics and Public Administration  
Psychology  
Social Work and Social Administration  
Sociology

1. Introductory course

One 6-credit introductory course from the offering department/unit of disciplinary major

2. Pre-requisite

Two 6-credit courses from the following disciplines (excluding the above introductory course), but not more than one from the same discipline:

Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Geography  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Psychology  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology

3. Social Innovation and Global Citizenship

Candidates are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange study or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)  
 FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)  
 FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)  
 FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)  
 FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

Should there be an overlap of compulsory courses (which should not exceed 24 credits) for the two majors, candidates will be exempted from such requirements for one major and are required to make up any credit shortfall arising from such double-counting by taking free electives.

After selecting the appropriate courses to satisfy the disciplinary major requirement, candidates may select other courses as electives or opt for other disciplinary/multidisciplinary major/minor.

**C. Multidisciplinary majors**

A multidisciplinary major is defined as completing not fewer than 72 credits of courses in a particular programme including all pre-requisites and capstone experience unless otherwise specified. Candidates may opt for a multidisciplinary major from the list below or major programmes offered by other Faculties:

*Multidisciplinary majors offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences*  
 Cognitive Science  
 Counselling  
 Criminology  
 Global Studies  
 Media and Cultural Studies

Urban Governance

#### **D. Minors**

A minor is defined as completing not fewer than 36 credits of courses in a particular programme including all pre-requisites unless otherwise specified. Candidates may opt for a minor from the list below or minor programmes offered by other Faculties:

*Minors offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences*

China Studies  
 Cognitive Science  
 Counselling  
 Criminology  
 Geography  
 Global Studies  
 Human Resource Management  
 Journalism and Media Studies  
 Media and Cultural Studies  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Psychology  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology  
 Urban Governance

(For detailed requirements of majors, minors and course description, please refer to the syllabuses of the respective programmes.)

#### **Notes:**

- a) Candidates must complete the following courses by the end of the third year:
  - Core University English (in the first year)
  - English in the Discipline (by the end of the third year)
  - Practical Chinese course for Social Sciences students (by the end of the third year)
  - Common Core Courses (by the end of the third year)
- b) Candidates should ensure that they have completed the relevant introductory course(s) for the subject in which they intend to major.
- c) For the course descriptions, please refer to the syllabuses of the respective programmes.

### **III. Course registration**

Course registration will take place before the commencement of each semester.

Candidates are advised to consult relevant teachers or Heads of Departments on the suitable combinations of courses and to adhere closely to the normal study pattern. Less suitable combinations of courses may not be permitted because of timetabling difficulties. Courses listed in the syllabuses may not necessarily be offered every year; and depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered.

Candidates may change their course selection during the two-week add/drop period which is



scheduled at the beginning of each semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable to the Faculty Board. Candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will be given a fail grade. In course registration, candidates should pay special attention to the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of courses as specified in the syllabuses. A prerequisite is a course which candidates must complete before being permitted to take a course in question. A co-requisite is a course which candidates must take at the same time as the course in question.

---

#### **IV. Coursework and examination ratio**

Details of course assessment are provided in the syllabuses.

## MAJORS AND MINORS OFFERED BY THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### 1. China Studies

#### I. Objectives

This programme aims to:

- provide students with solid general knowledge of historical and social change and development in China, particularly in the areas of history, culture, politics, social development, urban and regional development, and emerging social and economic issues in the context of historical and economic transformation.
- enhance students' ability to exercise critical judgment on humanities and social science subjects and current issues concerning China's development.
- provide students with the opportunity of developing a grounded understanding of historical and social change and development in China through experiential learning activities (e.g. exchange, fieldwork and internship).
- equip students with the basic theoretical and methodological training that would enable them to pursue further study at the postgraduate level on China studies and/or Asian studies.
- enhance students' awareness of social issues and problems in China and prepare them for advocacy of improving the human condition in China.

#### II. Programme structure

*(The Social Sciences stream and Arts stream are mutually exclusive)*

#### **(Social Sciences stream)**

For Social Sciences students

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	12	12
ii) pre-requisites*	6	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	12	12
ii) exchange studies^	24	-
- 12 credits for fulfilling Global Citizenship# requirement		
- 12 credits counted towards disciplinary elective courses (including core electives and other electives)		
iii) disciplinary elective courses (including core electives and other electives)@	24	12
iv) capstone experience	6	
v) Social Innovation #	12	

\* *Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

^ *Compulsory one-semester exchange programme in China studies for Social Sciences*

students with transfer of a minimum of 24 credits (taken in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of Year 2 or 3 and for major students only). The 24 credits should be closely related to the disciplinary elective courses listed below, and these courses will be identified from the partnering universities in China (including Taiwan) and in overseas China studies centres, by the Programme Coordinator. Major students must obtain prior approval from the Programme Coordinator on the course selection for credit transfer.

- @ Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 30 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives under disciplinary elective courses for a major from the course list provided by the Faculty of Social Sciences and/or the Faculty of Arts.
- # Candidates who opt to declare double majors in China Studies (Social Sciences stream), Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

#### For non-Social Sciences students

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	12	12
ii) pre-requisites*	6	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	12	12
ii) exchange studies#	24	-
- 12 credits for fulfilling Global Citizenship requirement		
- 12 credits counted towards disciplinary elective courses (including core electives and other electives)		
iii) disciplinary elective courses (including core electives and other electives)@	24	12
iv) capstone experience	6	
v) Social Innovation #	12	

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Both Social Innovation and exchange opportunities are optional for non-Social Sciences students. Major students opt for exchange must obtain prior approval from the Programme Coordinator on the course selection for credit transfer.

@ Non-Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 36 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives under disciplinary elective courses for a major from the course list provided by the Faculty of Social Sciences and/or the Faculty of Arts.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in China Studies (Social Sciences stream) must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

- i) Compulsory courses  
SINO1001. China: the long twentieth century (6 credits); and  
SINO1002. Introduction to contemporary China (6 credits)
- ii) Pre-requisite course  
One 6-credit course from the Faculty of Social Sciences (6 credits)
- b) Advanced courses (78 credits for major; 24 credits for minor)
- i) Compulsory courses (12 credits)

*the following should be taken in the second or third semester*

SINO2003. Contemporary China studies: issues and perspectives (6 credits)

**AND**

*One of the following courses which must be taken before the commencement of SINO3002 Directed project*

GEOG2120. Introductory spatial analysis (6 credits); **or**

POLI2104. Research methods in politics and public administration (6 credits); **or**

SOCI3030. Quantitative sociological analysis (6 credits); **or**

SOWK3129. Research method in social work and social administration I (6 credits)

- ii) Capstone experience (6 credits for major only)  
*the following course must be taken in Year 3 or above*
- SINO3002. Directed project (6 credits)

- iii) Disciplinary elective courses (60 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

For Social Sciences students

Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 30 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives for a major (6 credits for minor) from the course list provided by the Faculty of Social Sciences and/or the Faculty of Arts.

Disciplinary elective courses	24 credits of disciplinary elective courses
Exchange studies*	- 12 credits for fulfilling Global Citizenship requirement - 12 credits counted towards disciplinary electives
Social innovation requirement	12 credits for FOSS2018 Social Innovation internship or a combination of FOSS4003 The political economy of global Asia <b>and</b> FOSS2021 Comparative East Asian Studies internship

\* *Compulsory one-semester exchange programme in China studies for Social Sciences students with transfer of a minimum of 24 credits (taken in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of Year 2 or 3 and for major students only). The 24 credits should be closely related to disciplinary elective courses listed below, and these courses will be identified from the partnering universities in China (including Taiwan)*

*and in overseas China studies centres, by the Programme Coordinator. Major students must obtain prior approval from the Programme Coordinator on the course selection for credit transfer.*

#### For non-Social Sciences students

Non-Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 36 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives for a major (6 credits for minor) from the course list provided by the Faculty of Social Sciences and/or the Faculty of Arts.

Disciplinary elective courses	24 credits of disciplinary elective courses
Exchange studies <sup>#</sup>	Transfer of a minimum of 24 credits (taken in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester of Year 2 or 3 and for major students only). The 24 credits should be closely related to disciplinary elective courses provided by the Faculty of Social Sciences and/or the Faculty of Arts, and these courses will be identified from the partnering universities in China (including Taiwan) and in overseas China studies centres, by the Programme Coordinator <b><i>or</i></b> 24 credits of disciplinary elective courses
Social innovation <sup>#</sup>	12 credits for FOSS2018 Social Innovation internship or 12 credits of disciplinary elective courses

*<sup>#</sup> Both social innovation and exchange opportunities are optional for non-Social Sciences students. Major students must obtain prior approval from the Programme Coordinator on the course selection for credit transfer.*

#### **(Arts stream)**

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	12	12
ii) Arts requirement	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	6	6
ii) disciplinary electives	36	18
iii) capstone experience	6	-

Candidates who wish to major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in China Studies must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (24 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)  
*These can be completed in the junior years (i.e. Years 1 and 2)*
  - i) Compulsory courses  
SINO1001. China: the long twentieth century (6 credits); and

SINO1002. Introduction to contemporary China (6 credits)

ii) Arts requirement

Introductory courses from any Arts programme(s) (12 credits)

b) Advanced Courses (48 credits for major; 24 credits for minor)

i) Compulsory course (6 credits)

SINO2001. China in the world: from Sinology to China Studies (6 credits); **or**

SINO2002. China in the world: critical paradigms (6 credits)

ii) Capstone experience (6 credits for major only)

SINO3001. China Studies research project

iii) Disciplinary elective courses (36 credits for major; 18 credits for minor)

Arts stream Majors shall select not fewer than 30 credits of core electives from the course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or the Faculty of Social Sciences.

They may select not more than 6 credits of other electives from the course list provided by the Faculty of Arts or the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### Disciplinary elective courses

*Note: Not all courses are offered in a given semester; students should check with individual units on course availability; students should also check on course prerequisites and other enrollment restrictions.*

a) Core electives

i) Social Sciences stream

Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 30 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives for a major or 6 credits for a minor from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

Non-Social Sciences students shall select not fewer than 36 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of core electives for a major or 6 credits for a minor from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

ii) Arts stream

Arts stream students shall select not fewer than 30 credits of core electives for a major or 18 credits for a minor from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

Faculty of Social Sciences

GEOG2082. Economic development in rural China (6 credits)

GEOG2126.	Globalizing China: the land and the people (6 credits)
GEOG2125.	China's natural environment and resources (6 credits)
GEOG3101.	China's tourism resources and management (6 credits)
GEOG3102.	China: environment and sustainable development (6 credits)
GEOG3104.	Globalizing China: development issues (6 credits)
POLI3022.	Contemporary Chinese politics (6 credits)
POLI3023.	Special topics in Chinese politics (6 credits)
POLI3031.	Politics of economic reform in China (6 credits)
POLI3034.	Public administration in China (6 credits)
POLI3059.	China and the world (6 credits)
SINO2003.	Contemporary China studies: issues and perspectives (6 credits)
SOCI2003.	Contemporary Chinese society (6 credits)
SOCI2013.	Gender in Chinese societies (6 credits)
SOCI2052.	Traditional Chinese society (6 credits)
SOCI2070.	Chinese identities and global networks (6 credits)
SOCI2077.	Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)
SOWK2212.	Social welfare in China (6 credits)
JMSC3009.	Covering China (6 credits)

## Faculty of Arts

### *School of Chinese*

(The following courses require proficiency in Chinese)

CHIN2130.	Modern Chinese literature (1917-1949): fiction (6 credits)
CHIN2132.	Contemporary Chinese literature (since 1949): fiction (6 credits)
CHIN2138.	Chinese etymology (6 credits)
CHIN2148.	Modern Chinese grammar and rhetoric (6 credits)
CHIN2149.	Chinese language from social perspectives (6 credits)
CHIN2150.	A comprehensive survey of Chinese linguistics (6 credits)
CHIN2152.	Literature, modernity and nation in twentieth century China (6 credits)
CHIN2153.	Sinophone literature and film (6 credits)
CHIN2243.	History of Chinese science and civilization (6 credits)

### *Chinese as a Foreign Language*

CHIN9503.	Chinese as a foreign language II (Part I) (6 credits)
CHIN9504.	Chinese as a foreign language II (Part II) (6 credits)
CHIN9505.	Chinese as a foreign language III (Part I) (6 credits)
CHIN9506.	Chinese as a foreign language III (Part II) (6 credits)
CHIN9507.	Chinese as a foreign language IV (Part I) (6 credits)
CHIN9508.	Chinese as a foreign language IV (Part II) (6 credits)
CHIN9511.	Cantonese as a foreign language I (6 credits)
CHIN9521.	The fundamentals of Chinese characters (6 credits)
CHIN9522.	Exploration of major cultural themes across the dynasties of China (6 credits)

### *School of English*

ENGL2075.	The idea of China (6 credits)
ENGL2133.	Topics in cross-cultural studies: disciplinarity, methodology and politics (6 credits)

### *School of Humanities*

AFRI3005.	Africa-China relations (6 credits)
CLIT2037.	Gender and sexuality in contemporary Chinese literature and film (6 credits)

CLIT2052.	Chinese urban culture (6 credits)
CLIT2074.	Film and ideology in contemporary China (6 credits)
CLIT2087.	Modern Chinese culture and society: rebellions and revolutions (6 credits)
CLIT2090.	Orientalism, China, and globalization (6 credits)
CLIT2091.	Gender, feminism and modern China (6 credits)
FINE2049.	Art and gender in China (6 credits)
FINE2051.	Art, politics, and society in modern China (6 credits)
FINE2053.	Beauties and the Beasts: Song and Yuan Painting (6 credits)
FINE2055.	Crossing cultures: China and the outside world (6 credits)
FINE2061.	Contemporary Chinese art (6 credits)
FINE2062.	Land and garden in Chinese art (6 credits)
FINE2067.	Architecture of East Asia (6 credits)
HIST2003.	Twentieth-century China (6 credits)
HIST2018.	The foreign relations of China since 1949 (6 credits)
HIST2053.	The Cold War (6 credits)
HIST2068.	The intellectual history of twentieth-century China (6 credits)
HIST2090.	The Great Famine (1959-61) (6 credits)
HIST2096.	The history of European business in China (6 credits)
HIST2097.	Mao (6 credits)
HIST2110.	China and the West (6 credits)
HIST2114.	China and the wider world since 1600 (6 credits)
HIST2115.	Sports and Chinese society (6 credits)
HIST2117.	Nanyang: The Chinese experience in Southeast Asia (6 credits)
HIST2118.	Chinese and Americans: A cultural and international history (6 credits)
HIST2127.	Qing China in the World: 1644-1912 (6 credits)
MUSI2010.	Music of China (6 credits)
MUSI2055.	Chinese opera (6 credits)
MUSI2060.	Red is the colour: music and politics in post-1949 China (6 credits)
PHIL2420.	Chinese philosophy: metaphysics (6 credits)
PHIL2430.	Chinese philosophy: ethics (6 credits)
PHIL2451.	Philosophers' views of China in early-modern Europe (6 credits)
PHIL2460.	Philosophical Chinese (6 credits)
PHIL2480.	Confucianism and the modern world (6 credits)

*School of Modern Languages and Cultures*

EUST3012.	The EU as a global actor and Sino-European relations (6 credits)
JAPN2052.	Business strategy in Asia: Japan and China (6 credits)
JAPN2058.	Understanding popular culture in Japan and Greater China (Hong Kong, Taiwan, and mainland China) (6 credits)
JAPN2059.	Family and social institutions in Japan and Greater China (6 credits)
JAPN2060.	Contemporary Sino-Japanese relations (6 credits)
JAPN3018.	Japan and China as great powers in international security and global affairs (6 credits)
ITAL2025.	700 years of Sino-Italian relations (6 credits)
SINO2001.	China in the world: from Sinology to China Studies (6 credits)
SINO2002.	China in the world: critical paradigms (6 credits)
SINO2004.	Research skills for China Studies
SINO2005.	Readings in China Studies
SINO2006.	China Studies dissertation (12 credits)
SINO2007.	Creative industries in China in a global context (6 credits)
SINO2008.	World heritage in Asia
SINO2009.	Popular protest and social movements in China (6 credits)



SINO3001. China Studies research project (6 credits)

b) Other electives

i) Social Sciences stream

Social Sciences students shall select not more than 6 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of other electives for a major and 6 credits for a minor from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

Non-Social Sciences students shall select not more than 12 credits (including the credits transferred from exchange studies) of other electives for a major and 6 credits for a minor from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

ii) Arts stream

Arts stream majors shall select not more than 6 credits of other electives from the following course list provided by the Faculty of Arts and/or Faculty of Social Sciences.

Arts stream minors shall not select any credits of other electives.

Faculty of Social Sciences

GEOG2127.	Environmental management (6 credits)
GEOG3207.	Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)
GEOG3306.	Protected areas and their management (6 credits)
GEOG3307.	Cultural tourism in Hong Kong, Macau and South China (6 credits)
GEOG3403.	Urban planning in practice in Hong Kong
GEOG3413.	Urban development and evolution in Hong Kong (6 credits)
POLI3012.	East Asian political economy (6 credits)
POLI3019.	Hong Kong and the world (6 credits)
POLI3020.	Hong Kong politics (6 credits)
POLI3024.	Special topics in public administration (6 credits)
POLI3025.	Managerial skills in public organizations (6 credits)
POLI3035.	Public administration in Hong Kong (6 credits)
POLI3037.	Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)
POLI3039.	Public policy analysis (6 credits)
POLI3061.	Hong Kong and South China: the political economy of regional development and cooperation (6 credits)
POLI3070.	Language and advice in politics and public administration (6 credits)
POLI3115.	Politics and public opinion (6 credits)
SOCI2002.	Class, wealth and poverty: inequality and injustice in Hong Kong (6 credits)
SOCI2015.	Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)
SOCI2016.	Hong Kong society (6 credits)
SOCI2036.	Social anthropology of Hong Kong and Guangdong (6 credits)
SOCI2075.	Hong Kong: community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)
SOWK2209.	Issues and interventions in mental health settings (6 credits)
SOWK2023.	Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)
SOWK2029.	Comparative social administration (6 credits)

SOWK2050.	Government and politics of social services in Hong Kong (6 credits)
SOWK2084.	Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning (6 credits)
SOWK2102.	Social work in school settings (6 credits)
SOWK2109.	Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)
SOWK2122.	Community building and the civil society (6 credits)
SOWK2123.	Community partnership and political dynamics (6 credits)
SOWK2124.	Urban development and community engagement (6 credits)

#### Faculty of Arts

CHIN2154.	Taiwan literature from the Japanese colonial period to the 1990s (6 credits)
CHIN2332.	Translation in Hong Kong society (6 credits)
CLIT2064.	Hong Kong culture: popular arts and everyday life (6 credits)
CLIT2065.	Hong Kong culture: representations of identity in literature and film (6 credits)
CLIT2075.	Modern poetry: Hong Kong and beyond (6 credits)
CLIT2085.	Hong Kong: community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)
ENGL2097.	Imagining Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2119.	English in Hong Kong: making it your own (6 credits)
ENGL2123.	Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)
HIST2034.	A history of education in Hong Kong (6 credits)
HIST2098.	A history of modern Taiwan (6 credits)
HIST3024.	Writing Hong Kong history (6 credits)
HKGS2001.	Speaking of Hong Kong: Global voices (6 credits)
HKGS2002.	Hong Kong Identities in local, national and global contexts (6 credits)
HKGS2003.	Hong Kong Studies research project (6 credits)
MUSI2016.	Music of contemporary Hong Kong (6 credits)

## 2. Geography

### I. Objectives

Geography is a diverse discipline that involves both natural and social sciences with a focus on the major issues facing societies in a rapidly changing world. The Geography undergraduate programme aims to provide students with an understanding of the geographical aspects of the relationships between people and the natural environment; how these relationships have changed with space and over time; and the role of geography in the investigation and analysis of the issues and problems facing people, places and society. The programme also seeks to give students the opportunity to explore key elements of the knowledge and understanding embodied in the geography discipline; study aspects of geography that stimulate their intellectual interests; and acquire discipline-specific and generic skills to enable them to pursue their chosen career or continue onto higher education.

### II. Programme structure

The Geography curriculum is structured to permit students to explore the geography discipline, through studying a range of courses, in pursuit of their academic interests and future career development.

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) disciplinary electives	36-48	30
ii) capstone experience	6-18	-
iii) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship#	24	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Geography must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor – to be taken in Years 1-2)
  - i) One disciplinary course from the following list:
    - GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)
    - GEOG1016. Nature conservation for sustainable societies (6 credits)
    - GEOG1017. Human geography in a globalizing world (6 credits)
  - ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):
    - Faculty of Social Sciences
    - Politics and Public Administration
    - Psychology
    - Social Work and Social Administration
    - Sociology
- b) Advanced courses (78 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following components to be taken in Years 2-4:
  - i) Disciplinary electives (from 36 to 48 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)
 

These advanced elective courses are offered as either Level 200 or 300 courses to provide students with academic progression. Students are advised to take at least 18 credits of Level 200 courses for their declared major.
  - ii) Capstone experience (*for major only, from 6 to 18 credits to be taken in Year 4*)
    - GEOG3028. Overseas field trip (6 credits – **compulsory**\*)
    - GEOG3009. Honours dissertation (12 credits – *optional*)
    - GEOG3027. Directed project (6 credits – *optional*)

\* Students who have declared double majors in Geography and Urban Governance will be permitted to take either “GEOG3009 Honours dissertation” or “GEOG3027 Directed project” in the Geography programme to fulfill the capstone experience requirement.

### iii) Social innovation and global citizenship (24 credits)

#### For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018.	Social Innovation internship (12 credits)
FOSS2019.	Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)
FOSS2020.	Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)
FOSS2021.	Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)
FOSS4003.	The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

#### For non-BSocSc students

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

Advanced courses in Geography are also grouped into four **options of specialization** – ‘China & the Pacific Rim’, ‘Environment & Resources’, ‘Tourism & Leisure’ and ‘Urban & Transport’. Students can, based on their academic interest and future career development, select suitable courses from these options for pursuing their Geography major.

### III. Course lists

#### ***Introductory Courses***

Students who major or minor in this programme must have successfully completed one of the following disciplinary introductory courses:

#### *Disciplinary courses*

GEOG1012.	Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)
GEOG1016.	Nature conservation for sustainable societies (6 credits)
GEOG1017.	Human geography in a globalizing world (6 credits)

#### *Elective courses*

GEOG1002.	Hong Kong: land, people and resources (6 credits)
GEOG1003.	Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)
GEOG1005.	Map use, reading and interpretation (6 credits)

#### ***Advanced Courses***

*Level 200 courses (foundation: offered annually)*

- GEOG2004. Atmospheric environment and global climate (6 credits)
- GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)
- GEOG2014. Countryside recreation and management (6 credits)
- GEOG2018. Transport geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)
- GEOG2055. Water resources and management (6 credits)
- GEOG2056. Tourism and the shrinking world (6 credits)
- GEOG2057. Leisure and recreation in modern society (6 credits)
- GEOG2065. Urban planning: principles and practices (6 credits)
- GEOG2078. Urban geography I: growth, function and pattern of cities (6 credits)
- GEOG2082. Economic development in rural China (6 credits)
- GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)
- GEOG2096. Human impacts on ecosystems (6 credits)
- GEOG2097. Global landforms (6 credits)
- GEOG2109. Changing population structure in modern society (6 credits)
- GEOG2114. Recreation geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2120. Introductory spatial analysis (6 credits)
- GEOG2124. Environmental change and socio-political conflicts (6 credits)
- GEOG2125. China's natural environment and resources (6 credits)
- GEOG2126. Globalizing China: the land and people (6 credits)
- GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)
- GEOG2128. Economic geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2129. Geography of religion (6 credits)
- GEOG2130. Field methods in geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2131. Conservation and management of geological resources (6 credits)
- GEOG2132. World cities (6 credits)
- GEOG2133. Cross-boundary movements and social integration (6 credits)
- GEOG2134. Social capital and social development (6 credits)
- GEOG2135. Climate, energy and life (6 credits)

*Level 300 courses (more advanced: offered on an annual or biennial basis)*

- GEOG3009. Honours dissertation (12 credits – only available to Geography majors)
- GEOG3027. Directed project (6 credits – only available to Geography majors)
- GEOG3028. Overseas field trip (6 credits – compulsory course for Geography majors only)
- GEOG3101. China's tourism resources and management (6 credits)
- GEOG3102. China: environment and sustainable development (6 credits)
- GEOG3104. Globalizing China: development issues (6 credits)
- GEOG3105. Railway reform and development in China (6 credits)
- GEOG3202. Environmental GIS (6 credits)
- GEOG3203. Climate change and the environment (6 credits)
- GEOG3204. Urban hydrology and water quality (6 credits)
- GEOG3205. Environmental hazards (6 credits)
- GEOG3207. Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)
- GEOG3209. Sustainable use and management of soils (6 credits)
- GEOG3210. Trees for green and liveable cities (6 credits)
- GEOG3211. Climate change and social responses (6 credits)
- GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)
- GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)

GEOG3302.	Principles and practice of ecotourism (6 credits)
GEOG3303.	Visitor management in parks, heritage sites, and recreation areas (6 credits)
GEOG3304.	Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)
GEOG3305.	Geography of tourism and tourist behavior (6 credits)
GEOG3306.	Protected areas and their management (6 credits)
GEOG3307.	Cultural tourism in Hong Kong, Macau and South China (6 credits)
GEOG3401.	Retail location (6 credits)
GEOG3402.	Port and airport development (6 credits)
GEOG3403.	Urban planning in practice in Hong Kong (6 credits)
GEOG3412.	Geography of poverty and wealth (6 credits)
GEOG3413.	Urban development and evolution in Hong Kong (6 credits)
GEOG3414.	Cultures, social justice and urban space (6 credits)
GEOG3417.	Introduction to GIS in environmental health (6 credits)
GEOG3419.	Sustainable urban and transport planning (6 credits)
GEOG3420.	Transport and the society (6 credits)

### 3. Politics and Public Administration

#### I. Objectives

This programme aims to:

- provide students with basic knowledge and conceptual frameworks of political science and public administration;
- develop students' ability in critical analysis of complex political issues in the real world;
- equip students with necessary perspectives and skills in identifying and articulating politically feasible solutions to public policy problems;
- enable students integrate theories and methods of political science and public administration into interdisciplinary analytical exercises; and
- prepare students to engage in advocacy for social innovation and better governance.

#### II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	18	-
ii) disciplinary electives	30	30
iii) capstone experience	6	-
iv) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship#	24	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are

*allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.*

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Politics and Public Administration (PPA) must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)
  - i) Disciplinary course POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)
  - ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):
    - Faculty of Social Sciences
    - Geography
    - Psychology
    - Social Work and Social Administration
    - Sociology
- b) Advanced courses (78 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following component:
  - i) Core courses (18 credits)
    - 1) Methods requirement (6 credits): POLI2104. Research methods in semester III or IV
    - 2) Gateway requirement (12 credits): Two Gateway courses from the following list in semester III or IV:
      - POLI2105. Introduction to comparative politics (6 credits)
      - POLI2106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)
      - POLI2107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)
      - POLI2108. Introduction to public administration (6 credits)

(students are strongly recommended to complete the relevant gateway course if they wish to concentrate in that specialist stream)
  - ii) Disciplinary electives requirement: 30 credits of PPA advanced courses

the following major options are available for choice:

  - A) standard PPA major:
    - fulfil requirement from i) to iii).
  - B) PPA major with a specialist stream\*:
    - fulfil requirements from i.I and i.II, ii to iii), and
    - complete 24 credits of advanced PPA courses in a chosen specialist stream
    - the specialist streams of PPA are:
      - ◆ Comparative Politics
      - ◆ International Politics
      - ◆ Political Theory
      - ◆ Public Administration

- Notes: 1. Courses affiliated to individual specialist streams are listed in the department's website  
 2. Neither the transcript nor the certificate will note this specialization. Students, if necessary, may approach the Department for a letter of reference for their specialization.

- iii) capstone experience (*for major only*):  
 One of the following courses from semesters VII to VIII:  
 POLI4092. Capstone experience: research internship in politics and public administration (6 credits)  
 POLI4109. Capstone experience: directed project in politics and public administration (6 credits)
- iii) Social innovation and global citizenship (24 credits)

For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

- FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)  
 FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)  
 FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)  
 FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)  
 FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

For non-BSocSc students

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

### III. Course lists

***Introductory course***

- POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)

***Advanced courses***

*Compulsory course*

- POLI2104. Research methods in politics and public administration (6 credits)

*Gateway courses*

- POLI2105. Introduction to comparative politics (6 credits)  
 POLI2106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)  
 POLI2107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)  
 POLI2108. Introduction to public administration (6 credits)



*Capstone courses*

- POLI4092. Capstone experience: research internship in politics and public administration (6 credits)
- POLI4109. Capstone experience: directed project in politics and public administration (6 credits)

*Elective courses*

- POLI3001. Special topics in political science (6 credits)
- POLI3002. Special topics in political theory (6 credits)
- POLI3004. Bureaucracy and the public (6 credits)
- POLI3005. Capitalism and social justice (6 credits)
- POLI3010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)
- POLI3012. East Asian political economy (6 credits)
- POLI3015. Ethics and public affairs (6 credits)
- POLI3019. Hong Kong and the world (6 credits)
- POLI3020. Hong Kong politics (6 credits)
- POLI3022. Contemporary Chinese politics (6 credits)
- POLI3023. Special topics in Chinese politics (6 credits)
- POLI3024. Special topics in public administration (6 credits)
- POLI3025. Managerial skills in public organizations (6 credits)
- POLI3027. Public policy-making: theories and application (6 credits)
- POLI3031. Politics of economic reform in China (6 credits)
- POLI3034. Public administration in China (6 credits)
- POLI3035. Public administration in Hong Kong (6 credits)
- POLI3037. Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)
- POLI3039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)
- POLI3040. Public sector management (6 credits)
- POLI3044. American democracy (6 credits)
- POLI3047. United States foreign policy (6 credits)
- POLI3051. Issues in Chinese political philosophy (6 credits)
- POLI3052. International relations of East Asia (6 credits)
- POLI3059. China and the world (6 credits)
- POLI3060. Public financial management (6 credits)
- POLI3061. Hong Kong and South China: the political economy of regional development and cooperation (6 credits)
- POLI3064/  
LLAW3080. Governance and law (6 credits)
- POLI3065. Public organization and management (6 credits)
- POLI3067. Liberalism and its limits (6 credits)
- POLI3069. Public policy, politics and social change (6 credits)
- POLI3070. Language and advice in politics and public administration (6 credits)
- POLI3072. Normative theory of public administration (6 credits)
- POLI3075/  
LLAW3142. Law and politics of constitutions (6 credits)
- POLI3076. Special topics in international politics (6 credits)
- POLI3077. Special topics in comparative politics (6 credits)
- POLI3078. Humanity in globalization (6 credits)
- POLI3079. Global justice (6 credits)
- POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)
- POLI3081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)

POLI3085.	Globalization and healthcare policy (6 credits)
POLI3086.	Leadership skills in public administration (6 credits)
POLI3088.	Human security in the global context (6 credits)
POLI3089.	Global Studies internship (12 credits)
POLI3091.	History of western political thought (6 credits)
POLI3092.	Research internship in politics and public administration (6 credits)
POLI3093.	Understanding social protest (6 credits)
POLI3094.	Political participation: why and how? (6 credits)
POLI3095.	Civil society and governance (6 credits)
POLI3096.	Citizenship, culture and community (6 credits)
POLI3097.	Modernity and globalization (6 credits)
POLI3098.	Nonprofit management (6 credits)
POLI3099.	Perspectives and practice in world politics (6 credits)
POLI3100.	Social contracts (6 credits)
POLI3101.	Human rights and cultural differences (6 credits)
POLI3102.	Science, technology, and public policy (6 credits)
POLI3103.	Politics of the Global South (6 credits)
POLI3110.	Dilemmas of humanitarian intervention (6 credits)
POLI3111.	Social entrepreneurship and cross-sector collaboration (6 credits)
POLI3112.	Public policy and institutional design (6 credits)
POLI3113.	On the ethics of violence (6 credits)
POLI3114.	Understanding fair trade: a global movement (6 credits)
POLI3115.	Politics and public opinion (6 credits)
POLI3116.	Theories and practice of social leadership (6 credits)
POLI3117.	Special topics in public policy (6 credits)
POLI3118.	Special topics in NGO studies (6 credits)
POLI3119.	Causes of international war (6 credits)
POLI3120.	Governing Greater China: The challenge of intergovernmental relations and regional development (6 credits)
POLI3121.	Environmental policy (6 credits)
POLI3122.	Strategic leadership in civil society organizations (6 credits)
POLI4046.	Thesis in politics and public administration (12 credits)
ECON2276.	State, law and the economy (6 credits) [offered by School of Economics and Finance]
EUST3010.	European political and economic institutions and processes (6 credits) [offered by Faculty of Arts, European Studies Programme]

#### 4. Psychology

##### I. Objectives

This program aims to:

- allow students to develop basic skills across all areas of Psychology, including the biological and cognitive bases of behavior, developmental changes, social influences, and psychopathology;
- provide students with training in statistical and research methods that are essential for the implementation and consumption of psychological research;
- develop skills in critical analysis, reasoning, and self-reflection;
- provide students opportunities for tackling novel problems, and give them experience of

- addressing issues that are ill-defined; and
- be an internationally-recognized qualification in fundamental aspects of Psychology that allows students to pursue both professional training in applied aspects of Psychology (e.g., Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology) and advanced research training in all areas of Psychology.

## II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	12	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	36	-
ii) disciplinary electives	6	30
iii) capstone experience	6	-
iv) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship#	24	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Psychology must complete:

a) Introductory courses (24 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

i) Disciplinary courses:

PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits); and  
 PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)

*Candidates who minor in Psychology must complete the disciplinary course PSYC1001.*

ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Geography  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology

b) Advanced courses (72 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)

i) Core courses (36 credits)

1) **Compulsory** course:

PSYC2060. Research and quantitative methods in psychology  
and

2) 2 courses from the **First Stream**:

PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)

PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)

PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)

and

3) 3 courses from the **Second Stream**:

PSYC2009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)

PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)

PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)

PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

ii) Disciplinary electives (6 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)

iii) Capstone experience (*for major only*)

1 advanced lab course from the **Third Stream** to fulfill capstone experience (taken in year 3 or year 4):

PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)

PSYC3053. Advanced research in I/O psychology (6 credits)

PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)

PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)

PSYC3064. Advanced developmental psychology (6 credits)

PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)

**Note:** An Advanced Lab course is required for taking Thesis in Psychology. You may be invited by the Department Head to take Thesis in Psychology in year 4 if you meet the criterion for taking this course. Please see “An Overview of Thesis in Psychology” on the Psychology Departmental web-page.

iv) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (24 credits)

For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)

FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)

FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)

FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)

FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

For non-BSocSc students

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

The selection of courses and special topics in psychology available in a particular year is subject to the approval of the Head of the Department. In course registration, students should pay special attention to the prerequisite of courses as specified in the syllabuses. In exceptional cases these may be waived.

### III. Course lists

#### *Introductory Courses*

- PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)

#### *Advanced Courses*

- PSYC2002. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)
- PSYC2005. Introduction to counselling and therapeutic psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2010. History and issues in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2016. The psychology of stress and health (6 credits)
- PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)
- PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2032. Engineering psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2035. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2036. Special topics in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2038. Psychology of language and bilingualism (6 credits)
- PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)
- PSYC2059. Current issues in applied developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2060. Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)
- PSYC2063. Industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)
- PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)
- PSYC2069. Psychology of motivation (6 credits)
- PSYC2070. Love, marriage, sex, and family (6 credits)
- PSYC2071. Judgments and decision making (6 credits)
- PSYC2072. Research internship in psychology I (6 credits)
- PSYC2073. Research internship in psychology II (6 credits)
- PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3053. Advanced research in industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)
- PSYC3064. Advanced developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC4007. Independent study in psychology (12 credits)

- PSYC4008. Thesis in psychology (12 credits)  
 PSYC4068. Research project in cognitive science (6 credits)

## 5. Social Work and Social Administration

### I. Objectives

This programme aims to:

- equip students with basic knowledge of social policy and administration;
- equip students with theoretical frameworks in analyzing social policy and administration;
- equip students with basic social work intervention skills so as to prepare for further professional training;
- equip students with qualitative and quantitative research methods that are essential for the analysis of social policy and social problems;
- develop skills in critical analysis of contemporary social issues; and
- equip students with the necessary perspectives and skills in the social services delivery.

### II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) compulsory course	12	6
ii) disciplinary electives	36	24
iii) capstone experience	6	-
iv) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship <sup>#</sup>	24	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Social Work and Social Administration must complete:

a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

i) One disciplinary course from the following list:

SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration (6 credits)

SOWK1002. Introduction to social work (6 credits)

SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation (6 credits)

SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies (6 credits)

- ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences

Geography

Politics and Public Administration

Psychology

Sociology

- b) Advanced courses (78 credits for major; 30 credits for minor):

- i) Compulsory course(s) (12 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

Candidates who major or minor in this programme must complete one of the following courses. Once the core requirement is filled, other course from the following list may be completed to fulfill the elective requirement.

SOWK2084. Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning (6 credits)

SOWK2122. Community building and the civil society (6 credits)

Candidates who major in this programme must also complete the following course:

SOWK3129. Research method in social work and social administration I  
(6 credits)

- ii) Disciplinary electives from the following course list (36 credits for major; 24 credits for minor)
- iii) Capstone experience (*for major only*)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete the following course in Year III or IV:

SOWK4008. Capstone project in social administration (6 credits)

- iv) Social innovation and global citizenship (24 credits)

For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)

FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)

FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)

- FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)  
 FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

For non-BSocSc students

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

### III. Course lists

All SWSA disciplinary electives are listed as below:

- a) Contemporary social issues
- SOWK2034. Youth crime and juvenile justice issues (6 credits)
  - SOWK2037. Human sexuality (6 credits)
  - SOWK2065. Understanding and working with young people (6 credits)
  - SOWK2075. Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)
  - SOWK2099. Separation, divorce and remarriage (6 credits)
  - SOWK2101. Bullying, aggression and resilience (6 credits)
  - SOWK2111. Addictive behaviour (6 credits)
  - SOWK2118. Child maltreatment and protection (6 credits)
  - SOWK2133. Population aging and the controversies (6 credits)
  - SOWK3033. Working with youth at risk and juvenile offenders (6 credits)
  - SOWK3092. Migration and mobility (6 credits)
  - SOWK3090. Luxuriating in Google: Human behavior in the technology area (6 credits)
- b) Policy issues and social administration
- SOWK2023. Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)
  - SOWK2029. Comparative social administration (6 credits)
  - SOWK2053. Evaluation of social services (6 credits)
  - SOWK2062. Special topics in policy study (6 credits)
  - SOWK2123. Community partnership and political dynamics (6 credits)
  - SOWK2124. Urban development and community engagement (6 credits)
  - SOWK2129. Special topics in social administration (6 credits)
  - SOWK2130. Social policy and public opinion (6 credits)
  - SOWK2131. Behavioral economics for social change (6 credits)
  - SOWK2132. International comparative social policy (6 credits)
  - SOWK2134. Social development in modern China (6 credits)
  - SOWK3030. Law and social administration (6 credits)
  - SOWK3058. Managing people in human services (6 credits)
  - SOWK3061. Financial development and management for social service organizations (6 credits)
  - SOWK3094. Project development and management (6 credits)
  - SOWK3095. Social development and service learning (6 credits)
  - SOWK3130. Research method in social work and social administration II (6 credits)
  - SOWK4055. Management in human service organizations (6 credits)
- c) Social services delivery
- SOWK2020. Oncology, palliative and hospice care (6 credits)
  - SOWK2028. Selected topics in social work practice (6 credits)
  - SOWK2050. Government and politics of social services in Hong Kong (6 credits)



- SOWK2051. Information and communication technology in human services (6 credits)  
 SOWK2068. Social skills training for human service personnel (6 credits)  
 SOWK2069. Counselling in health care settings (6 credits)  
 SOWK2074. Teachers as counsellors (6 credits)  
 SOWK2092. Adventure-based counselling: theory and practice (6 credits)  
 SOWK2098. Working with people with disabilities (6 credits)  
 SOWK2102. Social work in school settings (6 credits)
- SOWK2109. Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)  
 SOWK2113. Special topics in social work practice (6 credits)  
 SOWK2119. Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)  
 SOWK2120. Counselling in business setting (6 credits)  
 SOWK2121. Counselling in human resource development and training (6 credits)  
 SOWK2127. Theory and practice of employment assistance services (6 credits)  
 SOWK2135. Theory and practice in family counselling (6 credits)  
 SOWK2209. Issues and interventions in mental health settings (6 credits)  
 SOWK2213. Social work practice with selected target groups or in specific settings (6 credits)
- SOWK3060. Career skills training (6 credits)  
 SOWK3066. Care management (6 credits)  
 SOWK3087. Counselling for emotional and relational competence (6 credits)  
 SOWK3088. Becoming a change maker: Skills and practice for effective social entrepreneurship and social innovation (6 credits)  
 SOWK3089. Integrative counselling methods in action: Theories, practice and research (6 credits)
- SOWK3091. Mental health sciences and society (6 credits)  
 SOWK3093. Play therapy (6 credits)  
 SOWK3096. Solution-focused therapy (6 credits)  
 SOWK3097. Trauma, resilience, and growth (6 credits)  
 SOWK3115. Frontiers in interventions around death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)  
 SOWK3131. Encounter with embodiment: Therapeutic use of drama in social work settings (6 credits)  
 SOWK3307. Working with families (6 credits)
- 

## 6. Sociology

### I. Objectives

This programme seeks to nurture students to become knowledgeable, critical and caring members of society. The programme offers students a solid intellectual foundation in Sociology. Its wide ranging course offerings also allow students to examine in a more concentrated manner a number of specialist areas within the discipline, including media and culture, cultural heritage, and criminology. As a whole, the programme aims to:

- provide students with knowledge in the conduct of social life;
- enhance students' critical understanding of the social world by exposing them to historical and cross-cultural analyses of the subject; and
- encourage students to appreciate and care for the continuing efforts to improve social life in the globalized world of today.

## II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) compulsory courses	12	-
ii) disciplinary electives	36	30
iii) capstone experience	6	-
iv) Social Innovation and Global Citizenship#	24	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

# Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Sociology must complete:

a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

i) One disciplinary course from the following list:

SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)

SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)

ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences

Geography

Politics and Public Administration

Psychology

Social Work and Social Administration

b) Advanced courses (78 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following components:

i) Compulsory courses (12 credits for major only)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete the following two courses:

SOCI2001. A history of social theory (6 credits)

SOCI2042. Social research methods (6 credits)

ii) Disciplinary electives (36 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)

iii) Capstone experience (*for major only*)

SOCI4095. Capstone project (6 credits)

iv) Social innovation and global citizenship (24 credits)

For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 **and** FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)

FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)

FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)

FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)

FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

For non-BSocSc students

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

### III. Course lists

#### *Introductory courses*

SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)

SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)

#### *Advanced courses*

SOCI2001. A history of social theory (6 credits)

SOCI2002. Class, wealth and poverty: inequality and injustice in Hong Kong (6 credits)

SOCI2003. Contemporary Chinese society (6 credits)

SOCI2006. Critical issues in media studies (6 credits)

SOCI2008. Culture and society (6 credits)

SOCI2009. Economic development and social change (6 credits)

SOCI2010. Education and teaching (6 credits)

SOCI2011. Gender and crime (6 credits)

SOCI2012. Gender and society (6 credits)

SOCI2013. Gender in Chinese societies (6 credits)

SOCI2015. Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)

SOCI2016. Hong Kong society (6 credits)

SOCI2017. Japanese economic institutions (6 credits)

SOCI2018. Japanese society (6 credits)

SOCI2019. Life styles and modern culture (6 credits)

SOCI2021. Marriage and the family (6 credits)

SOCI3024. Modern social theory (6 credits)

SOCI2027. Politics and society (6 credits)

- SOCI3030. Quantitative sociological analysis (6 credits)  
 SOCI3033. Research project (6 credits)  
 SOCI2035. Selected topics in social and cultural anthropology (6 credits)  
 SOCI2036. Social anthropology of Hong Kong and Guangdong (6 credits)  
 SOCI2038. Social control (6 credits)  
 SOCI2041. Social problems (6 credits)  
 SOCI2042. Social research methods (6 credits)  
 SOCI2044. Sociology of economic life (6 credits)  
 SOCI2046. Sociology of law (6 credits)  
 SOCI2047. Sociology of punishment (6 credits)  
 SOCI2049. The body and society (6 credits)  
 SOCI2052. Traditional Chinese society (6 credits)  
 SOCI2053. Youth and youth culture (6 credits)  
 SOCI2054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)  
 SOCI2055. A cultural study of tourisms and tourists (6 credits)  
 SOCI2056. Criminal justice: policy and practice (6 credits)  
 SOCI2060. Fraud, corruption and computer crime (6 credits)  
 SOCI2061. Life styles and religious practices (6 credits)  
 SOCI2063. Multicultural societies and modern identities (6 credits)  
 SOCI2064. Globalization and the information society: myths, facts and emerging patterns (6 credits)  
 SOCI2066. The Asian economic miracles and beyond (6 credits)  
 SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)  
 SOCI2068. Religious movements: peace, nationalism and terrorism (6 credits)  
 SOCI3069. Perspectives on crime and deviance (6 credits)  
 SOCI2070. Chinese identities and global networks (6 credits)  
 SOCI2071. Criminology (6 credits)  
 SOCI2072. Policy, governance and training in cultural tourism (6 credits)  
 SOCI2073. Global migration (6 credits)  
 SOCI2074. Disappearing cultures and vanishing heritages (6 credits)  
 SOCI2075. Hong Kong: community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)  
 SOCI2076. Globalization and crime (6 credits)  
 SOCI2077. Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)  
 SOCI2078. Drug control in comparative perspective (6 credits)  
 SOCI2079. Researching media and culture (6 credits)  
 SOCI2080. Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)  
 SOCI2081. Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)  
 SOCI2084. Local cultures and globalizing capitalisms (6 credits)  
 SOCI2085. Understanding media (6 credits)  
 SOCI2086. Art worlds in transnational perspective (6 credits)  
 SOCI2087. Urban studies and world cities (6 credits)  
 SOCI2088. Science, technology and administration (6 credits)  
 SOCI2089. Japanese consumer society and popular culture (6 credits)  
 SOCI2090. World city Tokyo (6 credits)  
 SOCI2091. Sociology of culture (6 credits)  
 SOCI2092. Sociology of space (6 credits)  
 SOCI2093. Medicine in modern China (6 credits)  
 SOCI3094. Youth crime in the global city (6 credits)

---

## 7. Cognitive Science

Cognitive Science is the scientific study of the mind and mental phenomena. For example, what is consciousness? Do other animals have language? Could a computer ever think? What is mental imagery? Answering these questions relies upon an interdisciplinary perspective, and so Cognitive Science adopts methodologies from computer science, psychology, philosophy, linguistics, and neuroscience. Students who take this major will be exposed to research in all these disciplines, and will integrate results from across the different approaches in order to more fully understand the complexities of the mind and the brain.

A core aspect of the programme is to ensure that students learn skills from different research traditions; for example, a Cognitive Science student could be expected to learn how to run psychological experiments, apply formal linguistic analysis, or critique a philosophical argument. In doing so, this program will develop students who have a variety of formal intellectual skills, and can bring those skills to bear on a range of issues in our increasingly technological world. Students with a Major in Cognitive Science will also be able to act as a bridge between those who are technically skilled and those who seek to understand technology, by placing formal computational analysis within the context of human thought and behaviour.

## I. Objectives

This program aims to:

- introduce students to critical issues within the interdisciplinary field of Cognitive Science, particularly related to the core disciplines of Psychology, Linguistics, and Philosophy;
- provide students with training in research techniques that are used to study the mind, thinking, and intelligence, from an interdisciplinary perspective;
- develop skills in critical analysis and reasoning; and
- provide students opportunities for tackling novel problems, and give them experience of addressing issues that are ill-defined.

## II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	12	12
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	12	12
ii) disciplinary electives	30	12
iii) capstone experience	6	-

*\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

Candidates who wish to declare a major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Cognitive Science must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (24 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)
  - i) Two disciplinary courses from the following list:

- COMP1117. Computer programming (6 credits)
- LING1000. Introduction to language (6 credits)
- PHIL1012. Mind and knowledge: An introduction to philosophy (6 credits)
- PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)

- ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Geography  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Psychology  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology

- b) Advanced courses (48 credits for major; 24 credits for minor)

- i) Core courses (12 credits for both major and minor)

PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)  
 PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)

- ii) Disciplinary electives (30 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

Candidates who **major** in this programme must complete at least 5 elective courses from the course list below. Candidates who **minor** in this programme must complete at least 2 elective courses from the course list below. The following courses are grouped by subject area; students are free to specialize within one area or select courses from different areas. In course registration, students should pay special attention to the prerequisite of individual course as specified in the syllabus.

*Philosophy of Mind*

PHIL2110. Knowledge  
 PHIL2220. The mind  
 PHIL2230. Philosophy and cognitive science  
 PHIL2510. Logic  
 PHIL2520. Philosophy of logic  
 PHIL2610. Philosophy of language

*Artificial Intelligence and Computational Modelling*

COMP3270. Artificial intelligence  
 COMP3314. Machine learning  
 COMP3407. Scientific computing  
 PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception

*Brain and Cognition*

LING2053. Language and the brain  
 LING2057. Language evolution  
 PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology  
 PSYC2022. Biological psychology  
 PSYC2032. Engineering psychology  
 PSYC2051. Perception

- PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology  
 PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology

*Mind and Language*

- LING2003. Semantics: Meaning and grammar  
 LING2032. Syntactic theory  
 LING2034. Psycholinguistics  
 LING2037. Bilingualism  
 LING2055. Reading development and reading disorders  
 PHIL2075. The semantics/pragmatics distinction

iii) Capstone experience (*for major only*)

- PSYC4068. Research project in cognitive science (6 credits)

## 8. Counselling

### I. Objectives

This programme aims to:

- equip students with the basic theoretical orientations and therapeutic skills in counselling;
- sensitize students to the ethical issues, professional concerns, and emic and etic counselling techniques in various settings;
- enhance students' self-awareness towards their own world values, beliefs and philosophy of life; and
- prepare students for receiving further training in becoming a counselling professional.

### II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	18	18
ii) disciplinary electives	30	12
iii) capstone experience	6	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

Candidates who wish to major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Counselling must complete:

a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

i) One disciplinary course from the following list:

- SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment I (6 credits)

SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life (6 credits)

- ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences

Geography

Politics and Public Administration

Psychology

Social Work and Social Administration

Sociology

- b) Advanced courses (54 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following component:

- i) Core courses (18 credits)

Candidates who major or minor in this programme must complete the following courses.

SOWK2137. Theories in counselling (6 credits)

SOWK2138. Foundation skills in counselling (6 credits)

SOWK3116. A self-reflective journey (6 credits)

- ii) Disciplinary electives from the course lists (30 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

- iii) Capstone experience

Candidates who major in this programme must complete the following course in Year III or IV:

SOWK4009. Capstone project in counselling (6 credits)

### III. Course lists

All counselling disciplinary electives are listed as below:

- a) Counselling people in need

SOWK2065. Understanding and working with young people (6 credits)

SOWK2098. Working with people with disabilities (6 credits)

SOWK2099. Separation, divorce and remarriage (6 credits)

SOWK2109. Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)

SOWK2111. Addictive behaviour (6 credits)

SOWK2133. Population aging and the controversies (6 credits)

SOWK3090. Luxuriating in Google: Human behavior in the technology area (6 credits)

SOWK3307. Working with families (6 credits)

- b) Therapeutic approaches/ counselling approaches/ therapeutic intervention

SOWK2092. Adventure-based counselling theory and practices (6 credits)

SOWK2112. Working with special target populations (6 credits)



- SOWK2114. Special interventions: Theories and techniques (6 credits)  
 SOWK2119. Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)  
 SOWK2135. Theory and practice in family counselling (6 credits)  
 SOWK3087. Counselling for emotional and relational competence (6 credits)  
 SOWK3089. Integrative counselling methods in action: Theories, practice and research (6 credits)  
 SOWK3091. Mental health sciences and society (6 credits)  
 SOWK3093. Play therapy (6 credits)  
 SOWK3096. Solution-focused therapy (6 credits)  
 SOWK3097. Trauma, resilience, and growth (6 credits)  
 SOWK3106. Use of creative arts in social work practice (6 credits)  
 SOWK3115. Frontiers in interventions around death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)

c) Counselling in human services

- SOWK2020. Oncology, palliative and hospice care (6 credits)  
 SOWK2069. Counselling in health care settings (6 credits)  
 SOWK2120. Counselling in business setting (6 credits)  
 SOWK2209. Issues and interventions in mental health settings (6 credits)  
 SOWK3060. Career skills training (6 credits)

## 9. Criminology

### I. Objectives

Criminology is an interdisciplinary field in the social sciences, drawing especially upon the research of sociologists, but with important contributions from the fields of anthropology, psychology, law, history, etc. The programme seeks to promote an understanding of “how” the criminal justice system operates, and “why” it should or should not operate the way it does. Further it seeks to illuminate how and why we commit or do not commit crime. The programme is useful for students who wish to assume a professional position in the criminal justice system and any one else having a general interest in crime and its control.

The programme aims to:

- provide students with a multidisciplinary framework for understanding crime and its control;
- enhance students’ critical understanding of crime and social order by exposing them to historical and cross-cultural analyses of the subject; and
- encourage students to appreciate and care about the causes, solutions and problem related to crime and social control locally and globally.

### II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		

i) core courses	18	12
ii) disciplinary electives	30	18
iii) capstone experience	6	-

*\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

Candidates who wish to declare a major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Criminology must complete:

- a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)
  - i) Disciplinary course SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)
  - ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):  
 Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Geography  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Psychology  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology
- b) Advanced courses (54 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following components:
  - i) Core course (18 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete all of the following courses (18 credits). Candidates who minor in this programme must complete SOCI2071 (6 credits) and complete either SOCI2056 (6 credits) or SOCI3069 (6 credits). Candidates may enrol in the remaining course as an elective course for the minor requirements:

- SOCI2056. Criminal justice: policy and practice (6 credits)
- SOCI2071. Criminology (6 credits)
- SOCI3069. Perspectives on crime and deviance (6 credits)

[Candidates who wish to major or minor in this programme are strongly advised to take SOCI2071 Criminology in their second year of study.]

- ii) Disciplinary electives (30 credits for major; 18 credits for minor)
  - 1) Department of Sociology  
 A minimum of 18 credits (for major) and 12 credits (for minor) of advanced courses from the following list:  
 SOCI2011. Gender and crime (6 credits)  
 SOCI3033. Research project (6 credits) (for major only)  
 SOCI2038. Social control (6 credits)  
 SOCI2041. Social problems (6 credits)

- SOCI2046. Sociology of law (6 credits)
- SOCI2047. Sociology of punishment (6 credits)
- SOCI2054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)
- SOCI2060. Fraud, corruption and computer crime (6 credits)
- SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)
- SOCI2076. Globalization and crime (6 credits)
- SOCI2078. Drug control in comparative perspective (6 credits)
- SOCI3094. Youth crime in the global city (6 credits)

Candidates who choose SOCI3033 Research project (6 credits) will be required to complete a small research project dealing with some aspects of criminology.

## 2) Other Departments

A minimum of 12 credits (for major) and 6 credits (for minor) of advanced courses from the following list:

### *Social Work and Social Administration*

- SOWK3030. Law and social administration (6 credits)
- SOWK3033. Working with youth at risk and juvenile offenders (6 credits)
- SOWK2034. Youth crime and juvenile justice issues (6 credits)
- SOWK2075. Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)

*Department of Law (some law courses are available to BJ, BSocSc and BSW students only)*

Candidates who intend to select the following courses during the third and fourth semesters are encouraged to attend LLAW1008. The legal system (6 credits) in their first or second semester, in the Faculty of Law.

- LLAW3001. Introduction to legal theory (6 credits)
- LLAW3022. Human rights in Hong Kong (6 credits)
- LLAW3057. International criminal law (6 credits)
- LLAW3062. Human rights in China (6 credits)
- LLAW3066. Cross-border Legal Relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (6 credits)
- LLAW3071. Equality and non-discrimination (6 credits)
- LLAW3101. Cybercrime (6 credits)
- LLAW3115. Rights and remedies in the criminal process (6 credits)
- LLAW3137. Corruption: China in comparative perspective (6 credits)
- LLAW3141. Law and film (6 credits)
- LLAW3145. Law, economics, regulation and development (6 credits)
- LLAW3146. Multiculturalism and the law (6 credits)

## iii) Capstone experience (*for major only, to be taken in Year 4*)

- SOCI4096. Capstone project in Criminology (6 credits)

## 10. Global Studies

### I. Objectives

The Global Studies programme is designed to nurture students' ability to recognize and exploit the interconnections between the cultural, political, and economic forces transforming individuals and organizations in a globalizing world. The programme aims to:

- provide students with basic knowledge and conceptual frameworks of globalization and global studies;
- develop students' ability in critical analysis of complex global issues in a globalizing world;
- equip students with necessary international perspectives and communicative competencies to answer the challenge of globalization;
- enable students integrate theories and methods of different disciplines into interdisciplinary global studies;
- prepare students embrace diverse globalized environments in future careers.

## II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	18	12
ii) disciplinary electives	30	18
iii) capstone experience	6	-

*\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

### a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

#### i) Disciplinary course POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)

#### ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences

Geography

Politics and Public Administration

Psychology

Social Work and Social Administration

Sociology

### b) Advanced courses (54 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)

#### i) Core courses (18 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete three courses (6 credits each, total 18 credits), and candidates who minor must complete two courses (total 12 credits), from the following list. Once the core requirements are fulfilled, other courses from these lists may be taken to fulfill the elective requirement:

- POLI2106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)
- POLI3078. Humanity in globalization (6 credits)
- POLI3079. Global justice (6 credits)
- POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)

ii) Disciplinary electives (30 credits for major; 18 credits for minor)

Candidates who **major** in this programme must complete at least 5 elective courses from the course list below and no more than three from any single department or unit. Candidates who **minor** in this programme must complete at least 3 elective courses from the course list below and no more than two from any single department or unit. The following courses are grouped by subject areas.

1) Globalization and Sustainable Development

Students enrolled in this stream of study will come to understand the dynamics of economic globalization. Students completing this stream will gain a general appreciation for the features and mechanisms of cross-border economic interactions, as well as a specific understanding of the social and environmental impacts of globalization on development. Those students interested in this stream may find career opportunities in multinational corporations and international development agencies appealing.

- ECON2262. Economic development (6 credits)
- GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)
- GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)
- GEOG2128. Economic geography (6 credits)
- GEOG3419. Sustainable urban and transport planning (6 credits)
- POLI3005. Capitalism and social justice (6 credits)
- POLI3081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)
- POLI3089. Global Studies internship (12 credits)
- POLI3114. Understanding fair trade – a global movement (6 credits)
- SOCI2009. Economic development and social change (6 credits)
- STRA3702. International business (6 credits)
- STRA4703. Business in Latin America (6 credits)

2) Global Governance and Security

Students enrolled in this stream of study will come to understand the role of globalization as a force of destabilization and destruction, as well as reconstruction and renaissance. Students completing this stream will be familiar with the role that war, crime, political disruption, and economic instability each play in the history and contemporary patterns of globalization. Those students interested in this stream may find career opportunities in risk-analysis, peacekeeping operations, and state-military organizations appealing

- GEOG2109. Changing population structure in modern society (6 credits)
- GEOG2124. Environmental change and socio-political conflicts (6 credits)
- GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)
- POLI3010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)
- POLI3081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)

- POLI3088. Human security in the global context (6 credits)
- POLI3089. Global Studies internship (12 credits)
- POLI3099. Perspectives and practice in world politics (6 credits)
- POLI3103. Politics of the Global South (6 credits)
- POLI3113. On the ethics of violence (6 credits)
- POLI3119. Causes of international war (6 credits)
- SOCI2054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)
- SOCI2076. Globalization and crime (6 credits)

### 3) Globalization, Society, and Culture

Students enrolled in this stream of study will come to understand the impact of globalization on groups, large and small. Students completing this stream will be familiar with the multiple ways that global forces shape and re-shape the lives of individuals and cultures, from consumer preferences to religious affiliations. Those students interested in this stream may find career opportunities in socially conscious NGO's particularly appealing.

- CLIT2050. Globalization and culture (6 credits)
- GEOG2018. Transport geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2056. Tourism and the shrinking world (6 credits)
- GEOG2096. Human impacts on ecosystems (6 credits)
- GEOG3211. Climate change and social responses (6 credits)
- GEOG3307. Cultural tourism in Hong Kong, Macau and south China (6 credits)
- POLI3081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)
- POLI3085. Globalization and health care policy (6 credits)
- POLI3089. Global Studies internship (12 credits)
- POLI3093. Understanding social protest (6 credits)
- POLI3114. Understanding fair trade – a global movement (6 credits)
- SOCI2002. Class, wealth and poverty (6 credits)
- SOCI2061. Lifestyles and religious practices (6 credits)
- SOCI2087. Urban studies and world cities (6 credits)
- SOWK2122. Community building and the civil society (6 credits)

### 4) Globalization and Asia

Students enrolled in this stream of study will come to understand the consequences of globalization for East Asia's political, economic, social, cultural, ecological, and security development. Students completing this stream will be familiar with major dilemmas and various strategies for coping with the forces of globalization in the region. Those students interested in this stream may find career opportunities in think tanks and international organizations concerned with East Asia appealing.

- ECON2264. Economic development of China (6 credits)
- ECON2249. Foreign trade and investment in China (6 credits)
- FINA2333. Asian financial institutions (6 credits)
- GEOG2082. Economic development in rural China (6 credits)
- GEOG2126. Globalizing China: the land and the people (6 credits)
- GEOG3102. China: environment and sustainable development (6 credits)
- GEOG3104. Globalizing China: development issues (6 credits)
- POLI3012. East Asian political economy (6 credits)

POLI3019.	Hong Kong and the world (6 credits)
POLI3022.	Contemporary Chinese politics (6 credits)
POLI3052.	International relations of East Asia (6 credits)
POLI3059.	China and the world (6 credits)
POLI3061.	Hong Kong and South China: the political economy of regional development and cooperation (6 credits)
POLI3081.	Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)
POLI3089.	Global Studies internship (12 credits)
POLI3114.	Understanding fair trade – a global movement (6 credits)
SOCI2003.	Contemporary Chinese society (6 credits)
SOCI2018.	Japanese society (6 credits)
SOCI2075.	Hong Kong: Community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)
SOCI2077.	Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)

iii) capstone experience (*for major only*)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete one of the following courses:

POLI4092.	Capstone experience: research internship in politics and public administration (6 credits)
POLI4109.	Capstone experience: directed project in politics and public administration (6 credits)

## 11. Media and Cultural Studies

### I. Objectives

This programme seeks to nurture students to become knowledgeable, critical and caring users and producers of media and culture. The flexible programme structure draws on a wide range of related courses from the social sciences and humanities. It aims to:

- provide students with multi-disciplinary knowledge in the operation of the media and the state of culture;
- enhance students' critical understanding of the world of media and culture by exposing them to historical and comparative analyses of the subject; and
- encourage students to appreciate and care for the continuing efforts to improve the state of media and culture and through this to improve social life as whole.

### II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) compulsory course	6	-

ii) core courses	12	12
iii) disciplinary electives	30	18
iv) capstone experience	6	-

*\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

Candidates who wish to declare a major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Media and Cultural Studies must complete:

a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)

i) Disciplinary course SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)

ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences

Geography

Politics and Public Administration

Psychology

Social Work and Social Administration

Sociology

b) Advanced courses (54 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following component:

i) Compulsory course (6 credits)

Candidates who major in this programme are required to complete this course, preferably in their second year of study.

SOCI2080. Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)

ii) Core courses (12 credits for major and minor)

Candidates who major in this programme must complete at least two core courses (6 credits each) from the following list. They may enrol in more than two courses from the list and the rest will be counted as elective course(s) for major requirements.

Candidates who minor in this programme must complete at least two core courses (6 credits each) from the following list. They can also complete the compulsory course listed above as one of their core courses. They may enrol in more than two courses from the list and the rest will be counted as elective course(s) for minor requirements.

GEOG3414. Cultures, social justice and urban space (6 credits)

JMSC2013. The press, politics and government (6 credits)

SOCI2079. Researching media and culture (6 credits)

SOCI2081. Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)

CLIT2050. Globalization and culture (6 credits)

iii) Disciplinary electives (30 credits for major; 18 credits for minor)



Candidates who major in this programme must complete at least five elective courses (6 credits each) from the courses listed for the programme. They can opt to complete the internship course or the research project in media and cultural studies, which carries 12 credits and count as two courses. They can enrol in no more than two courses from any single department (excluding SOCI3082 and SOCI3083). Those who minor in this programme must complete at least three elective courses listed and only one from any single department. To facilitate students making their choices, courses are grouped under two major themes. Students are free to enrol in courses in any one theme or across the two themes.

### 1) Culture and Identity

- GEOG3304. Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)
- GEOG3305. Geography of tourism and tourist behaviour (6 credits)
- PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)
- SOCI2008. Culture and society (6 credits)
- SOCI2012. Gender and society (6 credits)
- SOCI2015. Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)
- SOCI2055. A cultural study of tourisms and tourists (6 credits)
- SOCI2091. Sociology of culture (6 credits)
- AMER2014. A dream in the heart: Varieties of Asian American culture (6 credits)
- AMER2015. The American City (6 credits)
- CLIT2052. Chinese urban culture (6 credits)
- HIST2085. The History of Modern Sexual Identity and Discourse (6 credits)
- HIST2067. Sex, gender and modernity in China (6 credits)
- HIST2069. The History of American Popular Culture (6 credits)
- JAPN2011. Anthropology of Japan (6 credits)

### 2) Media and Communication

- JMSC2001. Media law and ethics (6 credits)
- JMSC2017. Journalism traditions (6 credits)
- JMSC3009. Covering China (6 credits)
- SOCI2006. Critical issues in media studies (6 credits)
- SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)
- SOCI2077. Media, culture and communication in Contemporary China (6 credits)
- SOCI2085. Understanding media (6 credits)
- SOCI2086. Art worlds in transnational perspective (6 credits)
- AMER2022. What's on TV? Television and American culture (6 credits)
- CLIT2007. Film culture I (6 credits)
- CLIT2025. Visual cultures (6 credits)
- CLIT2065. Hong Kong Culture: Representations of identity in literature and film (6 credits)
- HIST2031. History through film (6 credits)
- JAPN2031. The media and Japan (6 credits)
- JAPN3008. Contemporary Japanese popular music (6 credits)
- MUSI2015. Popular music: from Cantopop to techno (6 credits)
- MUSI2016. Music of contemporary Hong Kong (6 credits)
- MUSI2044. Film music (6 credits)

## 3) Internship / Research Project (12 credits) (For major only)

SOCI3082. Media and Cultural Studies internship (12 credits)

OR

SOCI3083. Media and Cultural Studies research project (12 credits)

Remarks: whether students are eligible for taking SOCI3082 Media and Cultural Studies internship or SOCI3083 Media and Cultural Studies research project is subject to the final approval of the Programme Coordinator.

iv) Capstone experience (*for major only, to be taken in Year 4*)

SOCI4098. Capstone project in Media and Cultural Studies (6 credits)

**12. Urban Governance**

## I. Objectives

We live in a rapidly urbanizing world where the time-space dimensions have been compressed by the rapid development of new cities and urban re-development. The land use and urban form of cities have been substantially shaped by different priorities in urban development, among other factors. The urbanization process and the development of modern cities have brought tremendous impacts on both the physical and human geography of contemporary societies. The increasing degree of urbanization around the world has prompted questions over the long-term sustainability of cities and extended urban regions. The pursuit of sustainability in cities, in both developed and developing countries, has forced a reassessment of the form and pattern of urban development, governance, planning, and management. The broad spectrum of courses included in this programme will provide students with a systematic understanding of the basic approaches and key theories of urban governance, planning, and management. Students will receive thorough training in the application of such knowledge to urban governance, planning, urban environmental management, and transport planning issues in Hong Kong, China's mainland, and the East Asia region. They will be prepared to pursue careers in the fields of urban governance, urban development, urban planning, urban environmental management and transport policy and planning.

## II. Programme structure

Components	No. of credits	
	Major	Minor
a) Introductory courses		
i) disciplinary	6	6
ii) pre-requisites*	12	-
b) Advanced courses		
i) core courses	18	12
ii) disciplinary electives	30	18
iii) capstone experience	6	-

\* Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.

Candidates who wish to declare a major (72 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Urban Governance must complete:

a) Introductory courses (18 credits for major; 6 credits for minor – to be taken in Years 1-2)

i) One disciplinary course from the following list:

- GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)
- GEOG1016. Nature conservation for sustainable societies (6 credits)
- GEOG1017. Human geography in a globalizing world (6 credits)

ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following six units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Geography  
 Politics and Public Administration  
 Psychology  
 Social Work and Social Administration  
 Sociology

b) Advanced courses (54 credits for major; 30 credits for minor) consist of the following components to be taken in Years 2-4

i) Core courses (18 credits for major; 12 credits for minor)

Candidates who **major** in this programme should take three courses (6 credits each, with a total of 18 credits), and candidates who **minor** should take two courses (with a total of 12 credits), from the following ‘Core course’ list. Once the core requirements are fulfilled, other courses from this list may be taken to fulfill the elective requirement:

- GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)
- GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)
- GEOG2065. Urban planning: principles and practices (6 credits)
- GEOG3403. Urban planning in practice in Hong Kong (6 credits)
- GEOG3419. Sustainable urban and transport planning (6 credits)
- SOWK2084. Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning (6 credits)

ii) Disciplinary electives (30 credits for major; 18 credits for minor)

Candidates who **major** in this programme should take at least 30 credits of disciplinary elective courses from the course list below (also refer to the remarks in the core course list for elective requirement), whereas candidates who **minor** in this programme should take at least 18 credits of disciplinary elective courses. The following courses are grouped under three major themes. Students are free to specialize within one theme or select courses from different themes. In course registration, students are advised to pay special attention to the pre-requisite requirement (if any) of individual course as specified in the syllabus.

1) Urban Planning & Transport Management

- GEOG2018. Transport geography (6 credits)
- GEOG2078. Urban geography I: growth, function and pattern of cities (6 credits)
- GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)
- GEOG3304. Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)
- GEOG3401. Retail location (6 credits)
- GEOG3402. Port and airport development (6 credits)
- GEOG3420. Transport and the society (6 credits)
- POLI3027. Public policy-making: Theories and application (6 credits)
- POLI3037. Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)
- SOWK2122. Community building and the civil society (6 credits)

## 2) Sustainability & Development

- GEOG2014. Countryside recreation and management (6 credits)
- GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)
- GEOG2132. World cities (6 credits)
- GEOG3202. Environmental GIS (6 credits)
- GEOG3203. Climate change and the environment (6 credits)
- GEOG3204. Urban hydrology and water quality (6 credits)
- GEOG3207. Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)
- GEOG3302. Principles and practice of ecotourism (6 credits)
- GEOG3210. Trees for green and liveable cities (6 credits)
- GEOG3211. Climate change and social responses (6 credits)
- GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)
- POLI3069. Public policy, politics and social change (6 credits)
- SOCI2002. Class, wealth and poverty: inequality and injustice in Hong Kong (6 credits)
- SOCI2054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)
- SOWK2034. Youth crime and juvenile justice issues (6 credits)
- SOWK4055. Management in human service organizations (6 credits)

## 3) Urban Economy & Society

- GEOG2109. Changing population structure in modern society (6 credits)
- GEOG2124. Environmental change and socio-political conflicts (6 credits)
- GEOG2129. Geography of religion (6 credits)
- GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)
- GEOG3414. Cultures, social justice and urban space (6 credits)
- GEOG3417. Introduction to GIS in environmental health (6 credits)
- POLI3012. East Asian political economy (6 credits)
- POLI3085. Globalization and health care policy (6 credits)
- POLI3095. Civil society and governance (6 credits)
- SOCI2008. Culture and society (6 credits)
- SOCI2009. Economic development and social change (6 credits)
- SOCI2064. Globalization and the information society: myths, facts and emerging patterns (6 credits)
- SOCI2066. The Asian economic miracles and beyond (6 credits)
- SOCI2087. Urban studies and world cities (6 credits)
- SOWK3058. Managing people in human services (6 credits)

iii) Capstone experience (*for major only, 6 credits to be taken in Year 4*)

GEOG3028. Overseas field trip (6 credits - **compulsory**\*)

GEOG3036 Directed project in urban governance (6 credits – optional, only available to Urban Governance majors)

\* Students who have declared double majors in Geography and Urban Governance will take “GEOG3028 Overseas field trip” course to fulfill the capstone experience requirement in the Urban Governance programme, and be permitted to take either “GEOG3009 Honours dissertation” or “GEOG3027 Directed project” to fulfill the capstone experience requirement in the Geography programme.)

## Minor Programmes

### 1. **Human Resource Management** (Department of Psychology)

#### I. Objectives

To be able to manage a culturally and psychologically diverse workforce, one must not only possess the requisite management skills but also be culturally sensitive. To prepare our students for this, the revamped inter-disciplinary minor in Human Resource Management will include courses that contain elements on wellness, global citizenship, and cultural sensitivity.

#### II. Programme structure

	No. of credits
Component	Minor
a) Introductory courses - pre-requisites	0 to 12
b) Advanced courses - disciplinary electives	24 to 36

Candidates who minor in Human Resource Management are required to complete

- (a) *at least 36 credits of courses listed under the programme from at least two departments;*
- (b) *at least 24 credits of which are advanced courses; and*
- (c) *not more than 12 credits of which are introductory courses to meet the prerequisite requirement of taking the advanced courses.*

**Note:** An introductory course will be counted as fulfilling the HRM minor requirement only if (1) it is not taken as fulfilling another curriculum requirement; (2) it is taken as a prerequisite for an advanced course of the following list; and (3) that advanced course is subsequently successfully completed.

In course registration, students should pay special attention to the pre-requisite of courses as specified in the syllabi.

MGMT3403. Leadership (6 credits)

MGMT3429 Strategic human resources management (6 credits)

MGMT3434. Human resource: theory and practice (6 credits)

- (Prerequisite of MGMT3434: MGMT2401)
- MGMT3475. Current topics in human resource management (6 credits)
- ECON2232. Economics of human resources (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of ECON2232: ECON1210)
- POLI3025. Managerial skills in public organizations (6 credits)
- POLI3037. Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)
- POLI3065. Public organization and management (6 credits)
- PSYC2002. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC2002: PSYC1001)
- PSYC2005. Introduction to counseling and therapeutic psychology (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC2005: PSYC1001)
- PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC2020: PSYC1001)
- PSYC2032. Engineering psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3053. Advanced research in industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC3053: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004 and PSYC2063)
- PSYC2063. Industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC2063: PSYC1001)
- PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)  
(Prerequisite of PSYC2065: PSYC1001)
- SOWK4055. Management in human service organizations (6 credits)
- SOWK3058. Managing people in human services (6 credits)
- SOWK3060. Career skills training (6 credits)
- 

## 2. Journalism and Media Studies (Journalism and Media Studies Centre)

### I. Objectives

The Minor in Journalism and Media Studies seeks to provide students with basic learning and experience for entry-level professional journalism. Our objectives fall into three broad categories—conceptual, applied and critical thinking—that converge to give our students in-depth learning and the ability to continue learning at a high level as each individual's situation demands. The program aims to help students:

- understand the role of journalism in a global society;
- understand ethical principles of gathering information;
- appreciate diversity in all its forms, and be able to navigate journalistically across cultural boundaries;
- demonstrate basic competency in journalistic writing for a wide range of media products;
- know how to gather information efficiently and ethically from a wide range of human and recorded sources;
- understand the use of technology in producing professional journalism, from the written word to multimedia production systems; and
- detect logical flaws and information gaps in journalistic products.

### II. Programme structure

Candidates who wish to minor in Journalism and Media Studies must successfully complete:

Component	No. of credits
	Minor
a) Introductory courses - pre-requisites	12
b) Advanced courses - disciplinary electives	24

a) Introductory courses (12 credits)

Pre-requisites

JMSC1001. Principles of journalism and the news media (6 credits); and  
JMSC1005. News reporting and writing (6 credits)

In the interest of deepening understanding the subject matters taught in the field of journalism, candidates may also take the following introductory course but they cannot be counted as requirements for a minor in Journalism and Media Studies:

JMSC1003. Statistics for journalists (6 credits)

b) Advanced courses (24 credits)

Disciplinary electives

JMSC2001. Media law and ethics (6 credits)  
JMSC2002. Television news production (6 credits)  
JMSC2003. Online journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC2005. Feature writing (6 credits)  
JMSC2006. Chinese news writing (6 credits)  
JMSC2007. Introduction to photography (6 credits)  
JMSC2008. Media research: an introduction (6 credits)  
JMSC2009. Visual journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC2010. Special topics in journalism I (6 credits)  
JMSC2011. Special topics in journalism II (6 credits)  
JMSC2012. Television news writing (6 credits)  
JMSC2013. The press, politics and government (6 credits)  
JMSC2014. Public affairs reporting (6 credits)  
JMSC2015. Documentary film appreciation (6 credits)  
JMSC2016. Introduction to television (6 credits)  
JMSC2017. Journalism traditions (6 credits)  
JMSC2018. Introduction to audio journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC2019. Digital media and society (6 credits)  
JMSC2020. Reporting and writing practicum (6 credits)  
JMSC2021. Introduction to strategic communication (6 credits)  
JMSC3002. Reporting public health issues (6 credits)  
JMSC3003. Advanced online journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC3004. Fundamentals of business and financial journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC3005. Literary journalism (6 credits)  
JMSC3006. Covering the environment (6 credits)  
JMSC3007. News Photography (6 credits)

- JMSC3009. Covering China (6 credits)  
 JMSC3011. International news (6 credits)  
 JMSC3010. Reporting Hong Kong (6 credits)
- 

## FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Language Enhancement Courses offered to BScSc students

---

### **CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)**

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided. Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

---

### **CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (*for non-Cantonese Speaking Students*) (6 credits)**

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (*for non-Cantonese Speaking Students*) (6 credits)**

Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course enables students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong Chinese, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Mandarin, to strengthen their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and people in Hong Kong. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **CAES1000. Core University English (6 credits)**

The Core University English (CUE) course aims to enhance first-year students' academic English language proficiency in the university context. CUE focuses on developing students' academic English language skills for the Common Core Curriculum. These include the language skills needed to understand and produce spoken and written academic texts, express academic



ideas and concepts clearly and in a well-structured manner and search for and use academic sources of information in their writing and speaking. Students will also complete four online-learning modules through the Moodle platform on academic grammar, academic vocabulary, citation and referencing skills and understanding and avoiding plagiarism. This course will help students to participate more effectively in their first-year university studies in English, thereby enriching their first-year experience. Assessment: 65% coursework, 35% examination.

---

#### **CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery (6 credits)**

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the influences of great speeches on social thought and political movements by analysing the argument structures, rhetorical devices and language choices of a range of classic speeches or speech texts. Students will acquire deeper insights into the processes that persuasion and argumentation entail and have an opportunity to put the rhetorical skills and techniques into practice. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports (6 credits)**

In this course students will explore the broad genre of report and proposal writing and the sub-genres of reports and proposals within the social sciences from both academic and professional perspectives. It focuses on the rhetorical functions, moves and linguistic patterns of different types of reports and proposals. Through a case-based collaborative approach students will identify and investigate social issues and genre features while engaging in collaborative research and discussions. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **CAES9923. Writing Psychology: Text and Context (6 credits)**

This course aims to enhance the skills of Psychology majors in writing disciplinary-specific texts including literature review papers and research proposals. Students will also explore professional communication strategies and analyse a range of text types such as popular psychology magazines and case studies through an investigative project. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **CAES9924. Language and Style of Narrative Journalism (6 credits)**

This course takes students to a new territory of journalism, 'Narrative Journalism'; it examines some of the best non-fiction narratives of recent years and critiques the structure, language, development of the characters, story line and plot. Through reading and analysing selected texts, students will discover how journalists have employed narrative techniques and literary devices to turn true stories of ordinary people and situations into extraordinary ones while still upholding journalistic principles. Alongside reading and analysing selected exemplars, students will choose, discuss and analyse texts and write a story in the narrative journalism genre. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **CAES9930. Dissertation Writing in the Social Sciences (6 credits)**

This course aims to help final year students in Geography, Political Science and Psychology (and any other programmes that many introduce dissertation writing in the Social Sciences undergraduate programmes) with their dissertation writing. Students will be introduced to the principles underlying research and dissertation writing and given practice opportunities to apply these in their own writing. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

## **Faculty-level Courses**

### **Introductory course**

#### **SINO1002. Introduction to contemporary China (6 credits)**

This is a foundation course on contemporary China (after the establishment of the People's Republic of China) that provides students with a basic and comprehensive understanding on the development and social change of China after 1949. This course prepares students for taking up special and advanced compulsory courses and electives in the China studies major/minor programme. Being a general, cross-disciplinary and social science oriented course, areas of study include historical development, market-oriented modernization, geography, international relations, political science, economics, law, demographic transition, social development, social protection, urban development, rural development, mass media, the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan and future prospects.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **Advanced courses**

#### **SINO2003. Contemporary China studies: issues and perspectives (6 credits)**

This course examines and unravels the key features and outcomes of China's experiences/ model in reforms and development. After introductory lectures on the macro-development framework, students are required to form project groups and select key issues for presentations in a series of research seminars. Under the guidance of the course teacher, project groups are expected to make investigation and data search on the selected issues. Current and emerging specific political, economic, and social issues/ phenomena may include: globalization and the Chinese economy, environmental protection, income disparity and poverty, civil service reform and corruption, population mobility and migrant workers, human resources and employment, regional development (Pearl River Delta), civil society, rural development, protest movements and social unrest, and various dimensions of integration in Greater China. Guest lecturers may be invited to participate in research seminars.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)**

To fulfil the graduation requirement under the theme of 'Social Innovation', students will begin their local or non-local internships after completing the intensive training workshops. They will be placed in local/international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organisations during term time or summer. They will be supervised and assessed by both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

Social Innovation Internships seek to enhance students' understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience, and through applying knowledge and skills to real-life situations. Students are expected to be socially aware and to have strong analytical, interpersonal and communication skills. On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work experience, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work experience. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)**

In order to fulfil the graduation requirement under the theme of 'Global Citizenship', students may undertake a non-local internship. Students will begin their internships after completion of the intensive internship workshop. They will be placed in international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organisations during summer. Through participation in non-local internships, students are expected to engage in working closely with international organisations, identifying key issues and developing strategies to enhance social development and promote social innovation. They are expected to conduct critical analysis of social issues, and to propose strategies to address the problems identified in their community organisations. They will be supervised and assessed by both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work experience, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work experience. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **FOSS2020. Global Citizenship Summer Institute (12 credits)**

The Global Citizenship Summer Institute aims at enhancing students' awareness of the importance of Asia in the globalizing world. Students spend four weeks in different parts of Asia such as Taiwan, China, South Korea and Singapore. By the end of the four weeks students will have gained a unique perspective on Asia through interacting with academics, government officials, community leaders and local people in selected Asian societies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)**

In this full-time internship, students are expected to examine issues related to strategies for promoting social innovation in local communities, and for working effectively with practitioners and professionals from both the public and private sectors. This course seeks to enhance students' understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience, and through applying knowledge and skills to real-life situation. To complete the internship, students must write an essay critically reflecting on their internship and analyzing empirical findings and work

experience gained from it.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)**

The political economy of global Asia provides a platform for students to engage in the understanding of emerging Asia through participating in a two-week intensive study in Hong Kong followed by the Comparative East Asian Studies internship (FOSS2021). This course aims at enhancing students' understanding of Asia and its connectedness with other parts of the world, as well as at enriching their international learning experiences. Students will be exposed to key issues and developments in Hong Kong and China. In addition to the lectures delivered by leading academics, diplomats and business people, students will undertake a series of field trips designed to deepen their understanding of the lectures whilst exposing them to the richness of Hong Kong society.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SINO3002. Directed project (Capstone) (6 credits)**

A directed study project involves an independent and empirical investigation on a specific political, economic and social issue in contemporary China. Being an empirical study, data can be secondary (review of existing data, government and research reports) or directly collected (through participant observation, interviews, focus groups and surveys). Through the application of social science theories and concepts, the project will assess and analyze the background and impact of the issue as well as government policy responses. Students have to submit their project titles and proposals to the programme coordinator for approval and assignment of supervisors at the beginning of the academic year. Students have to submit their final project reports by the end of the academic year of study. The directed project will be individually supervised by a teacher of the Faculty. The length of the directed project report will be a minimum of 5,000 words (excluding tables, bibliographies and appendices).

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

## **Department of Geography**

### **INTRODUCTORY COURSES**

#### *'Core' courses*

### **GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the processes and spatial patterns of economic development and social changes in an increasingly urbanizing world. Important subjects to be discussed include the geographical dynamics of economic development, the trend of economic globalization versus local development, the location issue in various economic sectors, geopolitics and the new world order, as well as social and environmental concerns in the urbanization process. Emphasis will be placed on the geographical explanation of economic development and emerging urban issues in this fast changing world.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG1016. Nature conservation for sustainable societies (6 credits)**

The consumption of the Earth's resources has reached an alarming level in terms of the intensity and pervasiveness of deleterious impacts. This course surveys the major issues related to the tenure of human-nature interactions, their current status as well as the prognosis for the future. A synoptic view on the cultural roots of the exploitative utilization of our planet sets the backdrop for a systematic assessment of the diverse but interrelated components of the resource system. Major natural resources such as water, soil, forest, fishery and biodiversity are discussed mainly at the global scale in the light of their uses and misuses in different human societies, and the possibility for a more enlightened approach towards a sustainable future. Adopting a non-technical approach, this course appeals to students with a background in humanities, social sciences or science disciplines.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**GEOG1017. Human geography in a globalizing world (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course about the processes and spatial patterns of human population, settlements, and culture in a globalizing world. Important subjects to be discussed will include the main themes of human geography as a spatial science, geography of population and migration, technological innovation and cultural diffusion, the changing cultural landscape, human impacts on the natural environment, and changing geography in major world regions. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction between human society and the natural environment.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

***'Elective' courses*****GEOG1002. Hong Kong: land, people and resources (6 credits)**

This course provides students with a fundamental understanding of several key physical and human geography issues in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Lectures are organized around two major sets of topics, which pertain to, respectively, the physical and human dimensions of the city's rapidly changing landscape. An emphasis is placed on the longer-term policy implications of these concerns in lecture deliberations. This is an independent course which can be taken by students from various disciplines. This course is relevant to students with a general interest in Hong Kong and its immediate hinterland. It is of particular relevance to Social Sciences students as it provides them with a comprehensive command of some salient local geographical problems from a larger regional and policy perspective.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**GEOG1003. Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)**

Recent decades have been characterized by increasing awareness of environmental issues and the need to come to terms with them. The course will examine, in turn, many of the current major environmental issues related to the atmosphere the hydrosphere, the lithosphere, and the biosphere as well as looking at major threats posed by the environment itself in the form of

natural hazards. In addition, the issue of the nuclear threat and the ever-increasing demand for energy are explored. Finally, the matter of sustained development and intelligent management of the planet for this and future generations is addressed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG1005. Map use, reading and interpretation (6 credits)**

Maps have been used for centuries to describe spatial patterns and portray association and correlation. Recent developments in digital spatial data handling have changed the environment where maps are used. Maps are no longer confined to the printed format. The objective of this course is to provide an integrated discussion of standard planimetric maps, their uses, and the basic skills necessary to take full advantage of these maps. The lectures will cover fundamental concepts underlying different mapping/analytical techniques, their strengths, limitations, and application settings. The practicals will be devoted to imparting essential computer operating skills to visualize spatial data.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **ADVANCED COURSES (LEVEL 200 & 300)**

*Level 200 (foundation courses: offered annually)*

### **GEOG2004. Atmospheric environment and global climate (6 credits)**

This course is divided into three major sections. In the first, the basic characteristics and features of the atmospheric environment are examined from the viewpoint of the basic physical and dynamical processes which occur in the atmosphere and between the atmosphere and the underlying surface. In the second both the spatial and temporal dimensions of the resulting climate are explored at a range of scales to provide an understanding of the link between the processes occurring in the climate system and the diversity of climatic conditions which occur on Earth. In the last section, various means of reconstructing and modelling the climate system are explored with a view to understanding the nature of past climates and the variety of potential future climates that might be possible.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG2013. Sustainable development (6 credits)**

This course evaluates the links between environmental protection and economic development. The world must manage its natural and environmental resources to meet the human needs of the present while at the same time preserving these resources for future generations. The course introduces students to different views on how human society can achieve the goal of economic growth without depleting the Earth's capital and jeopardizing the planet's life support system. It aims to enhance students' understanding of the issues relating to sustainable development. Although the course cannot provide complete answers to the issues, it helps develop students' ability of critical thinking and suggest promising directions in which answers may be sought.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG2014. Countryside recreation and management (6 credits)**

Expansion in leisure time has led to an associated increase in recreation. The countryside can provide a range of activities and attractions. The course examines the countryside as a resource and looks at management issues. The provision of leisure will be examined and National Parks in the USA and UK, along with Country Parks in Hong Kong studied. The environmental impact of recreation will also be explored. Competing claims for rural land and tensions resulting from countryside recreation will be examined. Factors influencing participation in countryside recreation are explored along with leisure activities undertaken in rural areas.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG2018. Transport geography (6 credits)**

This course provides an understanding of the spatial structures and development of transport systems from a people-oriented geographical approach. This approach emphasizes the role of people in determining the evolution and use of transport systems and the role of the transportation systems in serving and changing our daily life through improving accessibility and mobility. The course will cover the fundamentals of geographical analysis on transport, the analysis on transport demand, supply and regulations, and the relationship between transport and development. Case studies of airports, ports, and urban transport networks provide explanations about the mechanisms and dynamics of transport systems in different geographical situations, and how they interact with local and global development.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)**

This course explains the processes of globalization and discusses its important implications for national and regional development. A geographical perspective is adopted to explain and analyze the processes of globalization. Special emphasis is placed on the interactions of modern transnational corporations (TNCs) and the nation states. Case studies are drawn from different sectors of the economy and different regions of the world. Major issues, such as international trade and resource transfer, circuit of capital, product life cycle, technological innovations, the new international division of labour and transnational integration are addressed.

Assessment: 50% coursework; 50% examination.

---

**GEOG2055. Water resources and management (6 credits)**

This course begins with an introduction to water as a resource, and the drainage basin hydrological cycle. The second part of the course focuses upon the use of water resources, including changing demand for water, and explores possible solutions to the water problem. It also examines the issue of access to water. The human impact upon runoff and groundwater by means of dam construction and land-use change is studied. Finally, water quality including pollution and its impact upon water resources is explored.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG2056. Tourism and the shrinking world (6 credits)**

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the global tourism system in the social cultural and economic contexts. With a balanced coverage of the whole range of components within the tourism industry, it explores all aspects of both the private and public businesses related to tourism, such as theories, planning, environmental concerns, operations, and the interrelationships among the many tourism businesses. The material covered is intended to offer students knowledge of the tourism system, enable them to apply basic tourism concepts to various projects and problems, and help them to develop a career in the tourism industry.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**GEOG2057. Leisure and recreation in modern society (6 credits)**

This course is an overview of the broad field of recreation and leisure, emphasizing the understanding of various leisure phenomena. As such, it aims to provide the students with an introductory understanding of the nature and scope of leisure, leisure behaviour and affiliated recreation activity. It also reviews relationships between leisure and space, place, time, play, work, family, education, ethnicity, gender, and environment.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**GEOG2065. Urban planning: principles and practices (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the subject of urban planning. It first discusses the significance and objectives of urban planning, relating the rise of this profession to the changing configurations of our increasingly urbanizing world. Then, drawing upon the experiences of the United States and, at the same time, making references to similar issues in Hong Kong, and the major theoretical concepts and policy debates relating to contemporary urban planning practice are deliberated. These include competing planning theories on the planning process, the legal basis of planning, as well as the political dimension of, and social issues arising from, municipal planning actions. The land use planning, urban design and urban renewal are highlighted and critiqued; and examples from the United States and Hong Kong are contrasted to illustrate the complexity of urban planning problems in diverse spatial and cultural settings.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**GEOG2078. Urban geography I: growth, function and pattern of cities (6 credits)**

Human beings and their activities are increasingly concentrated in cities. A holistic examination of the city involves understanding its role, internal physical and social structure, and systems of activities. This is a basic course on urban geography. It covers basic topics including the history and forces of urbanization, economic development and evolution of cities, internal structure of cities, and cities as a system with functional relations. New urban phenomena such as the emergence of world-global cities and extended metropolitan regions are discussed. The course provides a basic understanding of city and related urban issues and problems.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---



**GEOG2082. Economic development in rural China (6 credits)**

China is still largely an agricultural country with an overwhelmingly rural population. This course examines China's rural and agricultural development issues from both developmental and geographical perspectives. It focuses on three areas of knowledge: basic theories in rural and agricultural development, existing condition and situation of Chinese agricultural production and the rural economy, and hot topics of debates on contemporary reform and development in the Chinese countryside. Agricultural and rural problems, government policies and the associated impacts will be analyzed along with the natural environment and its conditions. The course emphasizes the training of critical thinking and comprehensive analytical skills, as well as practical problem-solving ability. The course is primarily organized into three parts: lectures, a fieldtrip and fieldtrip sharing. Part I are lectures, Part II is a field excursion to China, and Part III are fieldtrip presentations by students, by topics and in groups.

Assessment: 50% coursework; 50% examination.

---

**GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the computer-assisted techniques of geographic data analysis, collectively known as GIS, which involve the overlaying and merging of spatial data layers. The principles of such an approach will be discussed focusing on the nature of the spatial data, raster and vector data structures, GPS data collection, data transformation and geocoding, spatial overlay techniques, and accuracy evaluation of spatial databases. Students must complete five simple exercises embodying the application of the GIS concept in a real-life situation.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**GEOG2096. Human impacts on ecosystems (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to the basic concepts of biogeography by studying the structure and functioning of natural ecosystems and their extensive modifications by human activities. It provides a comprehensive foundation on basic ecological concepts, including structure and organization of ecosystems, energy flow and nutrient cycling, evolution of the biosphere and ecosystem succession and changes. Some special issues of ecosystem management of relevance to nature conservation and protection are then expounded, including species interactions, biotic dispersal and migration, fire as a natural-cum-anthropogenic factor, continental drift and Pleistocene Glaciation, domestication and agricultural origin, the pervasive ecological impacts of modern agriculture and urbanization, and the application of island biogeography theory to habitat and species conservation. This is a course of general appeal to students with different backgrounds and dispositions.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

**GEOG2097. Global landforms (6 credits)**

This course is a core element in physical environmental study. The course provides a systematic description and analysis of earth surface landscapes and the processes that create them. Given that the Earth's land surface is located at the interface of the Earth's lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere, this study is closely related to a wide range of disciplines of natural environments. Topics discuss the landforms and their processes in different environments,

including slope, fluvial, coastal, glacial and arid locations. The landforms created by tectonic movement and the techniques in geomorphology are also studied.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG2109. Changing population structure in modern society (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide students with a fundamental understanding of human population issues and problems in our contemporary world from a geographical perspective. Major concepts, theories and definitions in Population Geography will first be introduced, and the patterns and trends in fertility, mortality and migration of human populations in different parts of the world will be illustrated. A variety of empirical cases from different geographical scale (from global, national to local) will be used to demonstrate how population issues are both shaped by and engender economic, political, social, cultural and environmental changes. Topics investigated in the course include: high level of fertility in poor countries, ageing population in advanced economies, and the HIV-AIDS pandemic and major health problems in different parts of the world. Policies adopted to address these population-related issues will also be discussed and analysed.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG2114. Geography of recreation (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide students with a geographical understanding of recreation activities, their relationship with natural resources, and their planning and management. Major themes that will be addressed include: factors influencing the demand and supply of recreation resources; the relationships between recreation and natural resources; evaluation of the economic, environmental, and social environments; and future development trends in recreation and tourism. The course will also introduce students to contemporary recreation resource management, planning, and related professional practices.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG2120. Introductory spatial analysis (6 credits)**

The course provides an overview of spatial statistical techniques that are fundamental to the analysis of spatial data. This is a foundation course for research in geography. Following an overview about the uniqueness of spatial data and related analytical issues, the course covers basic descriptive statistics and statistics used to describe the distributions of geographical features. Correlation measures, probability concepts, and inferential statistical concepts are discussed. The course also examines techniques to analyze point and polygon patterns, including spatial autocorrelation statistics.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG2124. Environmental change and socio-political conflicts (6 credits)**

This course examines the relationship between global environmental change, population growth, and socio-political stability in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with a special focus on the likelihood of environmentally related violence in the developing world. The background knowledge of climate-induced and human-induced environmental change will be introduced. The associated physical and social dimensions of environmental change will also be covered. Emphasis is placed on discussing how environmental stress triggers human conflicts in geopolitical perspective. This is a course of general appeal to students with different backgrounds. Each class will begin with a lecture, followed by significant time for questions and discussion. Debate is encouraged.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG2125. China's natural environment and resources (6 credits)**

The course firstly provides an explanation of the basic natural environmental elements of China. Based on an understanding and distribution of these elements, the physical environment of China is then regionalized and the individual environmental regions are each discussed in detail. The course also covers the utilization and transformation of natural environment since civilization and the major environmental problems faced by the different China's regions. This course involves a compulsory field trip to China.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG2126. Globalizing China: the land and the people (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course about the evolving physical, cultural and political landscape of China. Emphasis is placed on (a) the natural environment and physical setting for development; (b) historical geography and evolution of the landscape; (c) the political system and post-1949 development; and (d) the growth and spatial distribution of the Chinese population.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)**

The course will introduce a range of key issues, concepts, principles, and methods in environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to the environmental management will also be elaborated. The roles of nonprofit organizations, market mechanism, and government regulations in environmental management will be examined. Real-life examples from Hong Kong, China, and oversea countries will be discussed to illustrate how integrated approaches would be applied for identifying optimal options in environmental management decision-making processes.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG2128. Economic geography (6 credits)**

This course gives an introduction to the theoretical interpretations of why economic activities are located where they are. To address this issue comprehensively, the course explains how economic activities are categorized into different types, and provides an overview of how the geographical variations of different factors of production, including population and resources

affect the locations of economic activities. An overview of industrial location theory is offered. The course also examines the roles of transportation, activities inside cities, process of globalization and issues, and economic development at various geographical scales.  
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG2129. Geography of religion (6 credits)**

The secularization thesis has long posited that modernization entails the decline, privatization, and compartmentalization of religious belief and practice. Yet the once popular assumption that modernization is concomitant with departure from religion has few supporters today. Religions continue to thrive, influence the daily lives of billions of people, and maintain a strong presence in public life. This course introduces students to the contemporary debates in the field of geography of religion. We will explore the role of sacred spaces and religious practices in community formation, lifestyle choices, demographic trends, and the shaping of cultural landscapes across the globe. The students will not only learn about the emergence, diffusion, and transformation of world religions, but also everyday experiences and transnational formations of religious life. We will situate the construction, contestation, and uses of sacred sites in social and political life, while critically unpacking the binaries of sacred and profane, religious and secular, traditional and modern. Class discussions will be complemented with visits to sacred sites and places of worship in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **GEOG2130. Field methods in geography (6 credits)**

This is a foundation course on research in geography and is designed to introduce a number of techniques used in gathering field data. This course provides students with an opportunity to use field equipments, design experiments and questionnaire for field data collection. Field work is an essential part of this course. A compulsory field camp will be organized to allow students to observe and record data in the field and equip them with skills and experience to use various field equipments. Students will also be introduced to selected data analysis methods in dealing with field data. The presentation skills of field data will also be covered. This is a course of general appeal to students with different backgrounds.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **GEOG2131. Conservation and management of geological resources (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to the basic concepts of geological diversity and conservation by understanding the geomorphology of Hong Kong and its conservation. The recent designation of a global geopark in Hong Kong offers an opportunity for geological conservation and facilitates sustainable environmental, economic and socio-cultural development. This course examines the principles and practices of geological conservation and evaluates the role of geoparks for geological conservation and sustainable development. This is a course of general appeal to students with different backgrounds and dispositions.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**GEOG2132. World cities (6 credits)**

World cities have been contributed to the international networks of human activities, including flows of goods, services and finance which constitute the world economy. The course is divided into three main sections with two introductory lectures outlining the key concepts and terminologies to be used in the latter part of discussion and two concluding lectures focusing on the challenges of livability, sustainability and vibrancy of world cities. It begins with a discussion of urban economies. World cities are concentrations of capital, international firms, and professional workers. This part of the module offers an economic rationale for the existence of world cities and explains how a world city is shaped by the process of globalization. The discussion is followed by providing an overview of urban issues, including uneven development, concentrated decentralization, fragmentation, polycentrism, regionalization, segregation and exclusion. Different world cities will be chosen as case studies. Growth sustainability of world cities will be discussed before concluding this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**GEOG2133. Cross-boundary movements and social integration (6 credits)**

This course provides the students with an understanding on how cross-boundary movements affect identity inclination and social integration. Cross-boundary movements between Hong Kong and the Mainland have been increased significantly in the past few decades. This course provides a theoretical framework to study the effect of such movements on social integration. Typical movements under discussion include Hong Kong people studying or working in the Mainland, Mainland migrants living in Hong Kong, and Mainland travelers in Hong Kong under Individual Visit Scheme. The course also examines the influence of geographical location and inter-cultural contacts on identity shifts.

Assessment: Coursework 50%; examination 50%.

---

**GEOG2134. Social capital and social development (6 credits)**

This course introduces the concept of social capital and its impact on networking and mobilization of embedded resources to facilitate individual and social development. Social capital is a concept widely used to inform social policies in poverty reduction, neighbourhood building, community management, and inter-locality cooperation and development. This course offers a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical concept and empirical application of social capital. With reference to regional and international experiences, this course also highlights the importance of mapping, measuring, and leveraging the embedded stock of social capital for sustainable and scalable development.

Assessment: Coursework 50%; examination 50%.

---

**GEOG2135. Climate, energy and life (6 credits)**

This course provides a framework on the interactions between climate and life over a range of time scales from geological to recent decades, with energy and information as a link. A multi-disciplinary approach is adopted to prompt students to critically re-examine their world-view and their assumed values in life in the context of global climate. The concept of life is

applied to a broad range of phenomena. The role of life in determining the Earth's atmospheric composition, as well as the co-evolution of climate and life forms, are examined. Glacial periods and the human condition; climate and its variations as related to broad historical patterns; globalization, industrialization, and consumerism as climate changers are discussed. Looming hazardous climate change is studied in the context of "sustainable development" and China's "development". The course concludes with a critical look at values and ethics as the essence of being *Homo sapiens* and as the basis for species survival.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

***Level 300 (More Advanced: offered on an annually or biennial basis)***

**GEOG3009. Honours dissertation (12 credits)**

The basis of the honours dissertation should normally be the analysis of a problem through fieldwork or through library documentary study under the supervision of an assigned teacher. The object of the dissertation is for students to demonstrate a mastery of geographical field and practical techniques within the scope of the chosen study. Studies undertaken should be based on courses taken in the second- and third years. Staff may specify subjects considered suitable for study. ***The dissertation course begins in the latter part of the third-year of study and must be completed by the end of March in the fourth-year of study.*** The completed dissertation should be typed with double-line spacing on A4 sheets, and not exceeding 10,000 words in length (excluding figures and tables). Students are required to give an oral presentation on the research finding.

Assessment: 80% dissertation, and 20% oral presentation.

No lecture attendance is required for this course. Students must submit the completed dissertation by end of March and give an oral presentation before the end of the second semester in the final year of study.

---

**GEOG3027. Directed project (6 credits)**

The objective of this course is to offer Geography majors an opportunity to engage themselves in empirical/applied research projects under a teacher's supervision in the Department, and gain hands-on experience in research work. The directed project should normally comprise study of a well-defined and well-bound research topic/project through fieldwork. Students are required to propose, plan, implement, and complete the projects; and to demonstrate a mastery of geographical field and practical techniques. Staff may specify topics/projects considered suitable for small-scale investigation. After completing the projects, students are required to submit a written report, typed with double-line spacing on A4 sheets and not exceeding 3,500 words in length (excluding figures and tables). An oral presentation of their completed work will be scheduled in the second semester of the final year of study.

Assessment: 80% written report, and 20% oral presentation.

No lecture attendance is required for this course. Students must submit the completed report by mid-January and give an oral presentation in the second semester of the final year of study.

---

**GEOG3028. Overseas field trip (6 credits)**

This 'required' course is open **ONLY** to geography major students and requires them to complete

one ‘two weeks’ overseas residential field camp in the summer after the third-year of study, and to produce a field work report on the field trip which will be assessed by the teachers leading the field trip groups. The course provides the students an *experiential learning* opportunity to understand the world of geography by field observation and survey of the natural environment, conservation, social and economic development, transportation and urban planning in a designated part of a foreign country.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Geography majors may have other experiential learning commitments (such as Social Innovation/Global Citizenship or a compulsory field trip in another declared major) for the fulfillment of their degree requirement, but these commitments could pose a scheduling problem with Geography’s overseas field trip dates. In such a situation, the students can make prior application for seeking exemption from Geography’s overseas field trip, and they will be required to replace this commitment with another capstone experience course (i.e. “GEOG3009 Honours dissertation” or “GEOG3027 Directed project”) in order to fulfill the capstone experience requirement as Geography majors.

Assessment: 100% field report.

---

### **GEOG3036. Directed project in urban governance (6 credits)**

The objective of this course is to offer Urban Governance majors an opportunity to engage themselves in empirical/ applied research projects under the supervision of a teacher, and gain hands-on experience in research work. The directed project should normally comprise study of a well-defined and well-bound research topic/project through fieldwork. Students are required to propose, plan, implement, and complete the projects; and to demonstrate a mastery of field and practical techniques. Staff may specify topics/projects considered suitable for small-scale investigation. After completing the projects, students are required to submit a written report, typed with double-line spacing on A4 sheets and not exceeding 3,500 words in length (excluding figures and tables).

Assessment: 80% written report, 20% oral presentation.

This capstone experience course is available to Urban Governance majors only. No lecture attendance is required for this course. Students must submit the completed report by mid-January and give an oral presentation in the second semester of the final year of study.

---

### **GEOG3101. China’s tourism resources and management (6 credits)**

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to China’s tourism development from 1949 to present. Through the study of works by multidisciplinary scholars, students are led to examine and debate about China’s burgeoning tourism industry and its implications for China’s rise in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Significant issues to be examined and discussed will include, but not limited to: tourism development policies, hotel management, travel and leisure services provision, as well as the associated issues regarding China’s modernization campaign.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3102. China: environment and sustainable development (6 credits)**

Due to its geographic characteristics and its large population, China is prone to natural resources degradation. Environmental problems have been accelerated by the rapid economic growth of

recent years, high intensity of energy use, particularly in the industrial sector, and economic and pricing policies that have not taken into account the intrinsic value of the resources. These factors combine to cause over-exploitation of natural resources. To critically analyze China's development, this course comprises three main parts. Following the introduction, Part I provides an overview of the state of the country's natural environment. Part II focuses on the institution, legislative and administrative framework for environment protection and nature conservation. Finally, Part III discusses the government's strategy for the environment and sustainable development as stipulated in recent Five-Year plans and China's Agenda 21.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3104. Globalizing China: development issues (6 credits)**

China's space economy has undergone profound transformation over the past half a century. This course offers a selective evaluation of a number of issues that are critical to understanding China's ongoing economic and spatial transformation. Emphasis is placed on development strategies, agriculture, industry, transport, trade, and urban and regional development since 1949. The driving forces operating behind the scenes of economic transformation and the (un)intended consequences are critically evaluated.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3105 Railway reform and development in China (6 credits)**

This course is designed for students to understand the network characteristics of a railway system, and its implications on the choice of reform within the context of China. Despite the importance of the railway sector in China, both in terms of its strategic role and economic values, it has been criticized as being inefficient and financially unviable. The Chinese government has initiated a series of reforms to marketize this state sector and resulted in different intended and unintended outcomes. This course offers theoretical and empirical explanations on the constraints and solutions of marketizing the railway sector in China.

Assessment: Coursework 50%; examination 50%.

---

#### **GEOG3202. Environmental GIS (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the methods of overlaying and merging of spatial data layers in environmental monitoring and decision-making. The principles of such an approach will be discussed focusing on the nature of environmental data (particularly the raster data structure and remote sensing images), data transformation and geocoding, 3D-modeling and visualization techniques, and accuracy evaluation of spatial databases. Students must complete a simple project embodying the application of the GIS concept in an environmental situation.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3203. Climate change and the environment (6 credits)**

This course has as its primary concern climatic conditions on Earth and their interactions with life and human activities. It will focus on climate change, since to deal sensibly with questions raised concerning future climatic conditions and evaluation of their impact on environment and society,



it is essential to understand the nature of the climate system and what causes it to change. In particular, the impact of human activities on the climate system will be set in perspective alongside the background of natural changes in the climate of our planet. Issues associated with societal decisions taken today and their potential impact on climate over the next century will also be discussed.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3204. Urban hydrology and water quality (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide students with appropriate knowledge about water in the city. It starts with an introduction to the two water cycles in the city: the natural and man-made systems. The modification of the hydrologic cycle in the urban system is discussed along with the water supply and drainage systems. Access to water, as a scarce resource, and its geographic contrasts are studied. Hydrologic problems in urban areas such as flooding and subsidence are also examined. Water quality of both natural and man-made water cycle systems are also investigated along with urban drainage systems and rivers.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3205. Environmental hazards (6 credits)**

This course examines a range of environmental hazards of geological, geomorphological, atmospheric, biological and human origin focussing on their origins, characteristics and impacts on human society. It will also deal with the responses available to different societies to deal with these hazards including disaster relief, loss sharing and event modification adjustments. Basic hazard planning and management principles are outlined. Where practicable local and regional examples will be used as illustrations.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3207. Environmental management: impact assessment (6 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to discuss the role of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies in the environmental decision-making process and as a means for better environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to EIA systems will be discussed throughout the lectures. The course will also introduce different methodologies in planning and managing of an EIA study. Applications of EIA system in the local context will be discussed in detail and illustrated by real-life examples mainly from Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

#### **GEOG3209. Sustainable use and management of soils (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to soils as an integral component of the environment and a pertinent natural resource. It furnishes basic concepts of soil as a natural body by assessing systematically the mineral and organic composition as well as their related properties. The physical organization of soils in the form of structure and its manipulation by humankind in the form of tillage are elucidated. The ability of soils to supply nutrients for plant growth, and the use of different forms of chemical and organic fertilizers is covered. The importance of managing

soil moisture at an optimal state are explained in the context of drainage and irrigation. The general degradation of soils due to human-accelerated erosion and other unsustainable activities are evaluated together with the prospects for ecological rehabilitation and conservation. The course contents and presentation are designed for students with arts, social sciences or science backgrounds.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3210. Trees for green and liveable cities (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to trees as a prominent element of the natural-green compartment of the urban ecosystem. As key landscape features and ecological partners in human settlements, trees are evaluated with respect to composition, structure, biodiversity, environmental conditions for their existence, multiple benefits and functions to people and environment and general pattern of greenspaces in cities. Various stress factors dampening tree vigour in the trying urban milieu in the above- and below-ground realms and the resulting arboricultural problems are considered. The practical management of trees in the urban landscape is elaborated with reference to species composition and selection to match different site conditions, tree planting techniques and subsequent care, tree preservation and transplanting, and the assessment and valuation of urban trees. By adopting a non-technical approach, students with arts, social sciences or science background with an interest in nature-in-city are targeted.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3211. Climate change and social responses (6 credits)**

The course provides a systematic description and analysis of past climate changes during human history, particularly in the last two thousand years. The impacts of these changes on human society would be studied based on the analysis of historical records, which include population changes, armed conflicts, harvest levels, diseases and political transitions. The course will discuss the current issues on global warming and its possible impacts on the future society and the human adaptive choices to the change. This course includes a compulsory field trip to archeological sites in China or southeast Asia.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide the students with fundamental understanding of nature's ecosystem services and their importance for the development of a sustainable society. Creating a sustainable society is the most crucial challenge in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Human society is dependent on both a technological and an ecological life support systems. To build a sustainable society, it is necessary to understand natural ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services which are essential to the survival of human society. Attention should be given the sustainability of ecosystem services lest they may fail through ever increasing pressure of population and associated environmental degradation. This course starts with an introduction of the concept of natural ecosystems and ecosystem services. Major issues discussed include: (1) the ecological and geographic context of ecosystem services; (2) characterizing ecosystem services generated by various biomes; (3) human impacts on ecosystem services; (4) bringing ecosystem services into markets, environmental policies and land-use planning; (5) a series of case studies; and (6)

the connection between ecosystem services and the development of the sustainable society.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)**

The world's major environmental problems are closely related to the impacts imposed by various commercial establishments. Recently, the contribution of the business sector to social responsibility and sustainability has been increasingly emphasized. The awareness of the social and environmental implications of business operations, products, and services has brought changes in relevant attitude, behaviour and policy. On the other hand, various stakeholders, such as the public, investors, customers, employees, media, or business partners, are interested in the social and environmental activities of corporations and their contribution to sustainable development. This course introduces the students to the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and environmental auditing. It will focus on the recognition of CSR as a process that integrates social and environmental concerns in business operation, and the application of environmental auditing as a preventative tool to manage social and environmental responsibilities. Adopting an integrated scientific and practical approach, the course appeals to students with science, social science, business or humanity background with an interest in the corporate social performance, the welfare of the environment, and the quest for sustainable development.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3302. Principles and practice of ecotourism (6 credits)**

This course will lead students to explore the history, concepts, principles and practice of ecotourism and development which promote cultural and environmental awareness and local economic benefits with an emphasis on non-western cultures. The material covered is intended to offer students basic knowledge of this sector of the tourism industry, enable them to define, describe and analyze the principles and practices of eco-tourism, and help them to appreciate the complex nature of eco-tourism development in the contemporary world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3303. Visitor management in parks, heritage sites, and recreation areas (6 credits)**

Parks, heritage sites, and recreation areas increasingly serve as international tourist attractions and play an important role in the international tourism industry. Visitor use of these areas may contribute significantly to sustainable local communities. However, overuse of parks and protected areas by visitors may result in problems. Visitor management and the related issues of perception of service quality and customer satisfaction, therefore assumes an important role in parks, heritage sites, and recreation areas management. The course examines various concepts and strategies for visitor management of parks, heritage sites, and recreation areas. It also addresses the issue of assessing service quality and customer satisfaction for the management of diverse visitors.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3304. Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)**

This course aims at demonstrating the critical importance of tourism policy to the competitiveness and sustainability of a destination and relates tourism planning to policy making. The course outlines the structure, content and formation of tourism policy and relates planning and management strategies to be articulated in the context of social, economic, political and environmental impacts of tourism. Students will be introduced to case studies worldwide so as to appreciate the geographical specificities of, and develop a 'critical lens' towards tourism policy and planning.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3305. Geography of tourism and tourist behaviour (6 credits)**

The course aims to provide students with a geographical interpretation of how travelers' motivation, perception, and behaviour are inter-related to natural resources and the natural environment. The knowledge and skills of a locational analysis of tourist perception and behaviour will be complementary to students' interests in the study of psychology. The main themes to be addressed will include the inter-relationship between the natural environment and tourist perception, the geographic variation of tourist behaviour, the perception and selection of tourist destination, the discrepancy between tourist expectation and the end-result, regional variation of the tourism market, methods of evaluation of tourist perception and behaviour.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **GEOG3306. Protected areas and their management (6 credits)**

With rapid urbanization and growth of global environmental problems establishment of protected areas has become one of the important environmental measures to safeguard the biodiversity. This course introduces students to protected areas of the world and to understand their importance ecologically, economically, socially and educationally. While the course will examine the development and implementation of protected areas in a global context, emphasis will be made to the protected areas in Hong Kong. It would assess the value and benefit of protected areas for urban communities. Criteria for designation, methods of planning and management of protected areas in terms of recreation, conservation and education will be analyzed. Students would be requested to apply what have been learnt in case studies and in field trips. Problems associated with protected areas such as development control, indigenous people, recreation or tourism impacts would be examined and the compatibility of various activities in protected areas would be considered. The IUCN guidelines and good practice of protected area management would be applied in local context. This course is suitable for students who are interested in nature conservation and wishing to put into practice some elementary techniques in the planning and management of protected areas.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3307. Cultural tourism in Hong Kong, Macau and South China (6 credits)**

Tourism industry is widely accepted as one of the key engines for Hong Kong, Macau and China's economic development. However, the conventional strand of tourism has reached its growth climax. Cultural tourism offers a promising alternative to sustain this growing industry, which also contributes to preserve the heritages and customs in the regions. Recently, three

World Heritage sites (Macao Historic Centre, Fujian Tulou and Kaiping Diaolou and Villages) have been recognized by the UNESCO in Macau and South China. In Hong Kong, over 1,444 historic buildings and 100 declared monuments have been identified in the city for possible statutory conservation. Many of them have great potential to be revitalized as attractive tourist spots. This course aims to arouse students' interests on exploring Hong Kong's Cultural Heritages, and the dynamic relationship among conservation, sustainable management, marketing, stakeholders' interests with tourism development, which appeals to students with different background from arts, social sciences or science disciplines, with their own identity and value judgment.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3401. Retail location (6 credits)**

This course introduces the principles and components of the retail system with the emphasis on the spatial pattern of demand and the value of location to various actors - the economic basis of location decision. The spatial structure of commercial activities are described and explained at both the settlement and the metropolitan scale with an eye on the location decisions of retail chains and developers. Students will be introduced to the most widely used procedures in store location studies and are urged to evaluate these techniques in terms of the retail chain's strategies and requirements in a local setting.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3402. Port and airport development (6 credits)**

Port and airport are regarded in transport geography as two nodal development forms in multi-modal transport systems. Through a series of seminar-like discussions, this course provides an understanding of port and airport operations, and how these two forms of nodal transport infrastructure interact with other transport components and with urban and regional development. Examples drawn from different parts of the world will be discussed in detail and students are required to examine the local cases through field trips.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3403. Urban planning in practice in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course will concentrate its discussions on selected aspects on urban planning in practice in Hong Kong. It will outline the actual functions and work of urban planning in real life and analyze the more important factors affecting urban planning in Hong Kong. A number of specific significant urban planning issues will be considered. The planning system, the planning legislation and other matters in the implementation mechanism will also be explained. The course will end with glimpses into the future development of Hong Kong and its planning-development relationship with neighbouring development areas.

Assessment: 40% coursework; 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3412. Geography of poverty and wealth (6 credits)**

Why are some nations/people so poor and others so rich? Do the reasons lie with their

productivity? Does climate play a role? Do public health and access to the sea make a difference? Would institutional reforms, international aid and social welfare solve the problems of poverty? Can the poor ever become rich? What is the relevancy of geography? This course on the geography of poverty and wealth addresses these questions by exposing students to the meanings of development, theories of development, major issues of development strategies and planning at the international, national and sub-national levels.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3413. Urban development and evolution in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

As Hong Kong is our home city, yet most of us do not fully understand how our city has been developed and shaped into its present form. This course introduces the underlying factors and processes on the urban development of Hong Kong. It focuses on the evolution of urban development and associated land administration in Hong Kong, with references in different areas like: Evolution of city development, topography, praya (waterfront) evolution, reclamation, compact city development mode and social life. Current issues like town planning process the “invisible hands” in market, urban development and evolution, Modernity vs Post-modernism, Government policies and the Developer Hegemony also known as 地產霸權) are discussed. This course appeals to students with a background in different arts, social sciences or science disciplines.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3414. Cultures, social justice and urban space (6 credits)**

This course interrogates the cultural, social and urban aspects of our everyday life through a Cultural Geography perspective. More specifically, it will utilize the concept of ‘landscape’ as lens through which to explore contemporary debates on people and their lived urban environment. In this course, students will explore how cultures are geographically expressed and how geography is a basic element in the making of culture. The course will begin with a survey of the main concepts of ‘landscape’, ‘space’, ‘place’, ‘scale’, ‘flows’ and ‘networks’. With such conceptual understanding as background, students will examine an array of empirical cases to appreciate the role of space, place and culture in relation to social issues, cultural politics, identity and community and other aspects of daily life. Particular attention will be paid to the power relations amongst the various stakeholders in the creation and negotiation of urban space and social systems. The course thus plots a thematic learning journey, which spans from urban injustice, struggles over urban public spaces, and identity politics at a variety of different scales to, culture and heritage as tourism resources in the age of globalisation. As such, students will be familiarized with foundation of Cultural Geography, and learn to make sense of the mutually constitutive relationship between people and their environments.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

---

### **GEOG3417. Introduction to GIS in environmental health (6 credits)**

Environmental health is concerned with all aspects of the natural and built environment that may affect human health. The idea of applying GIS techniques in health-related studies is not new. Indeed, GIS has been used for more than a decade in the western countries to undertake assessment and control of environmental factors that can potentially affect health. This course

explores how a GIS is used to address and analyze pressing health problems from the geographical perspective. It covers such topics as theoretical and practical issues, simple disease mapping, disease pattern analysis, and environmental association through spatial modeling techniques. The course will be conducted in a series of lectures and hands-on practices in a problem-based learning environment.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **GEOG3419. Sustainable urban and transport planning (6 credits)**

There has been a rapidly increasing literature, since the 1990s, on how cities in general, and urban transport systems in particular, could be planned and managed to make them compatible, and aligned, with sustainable development goals. This course examines some key theoretical issues pertaining to this two-tiered topic—such as the relationships between cities, sustainability and environmental justice. It then explores the questions of how, and to what extent, the practices of sectoral policies—in transport, urban design, and planning—have contributed to, or have hindered, the attainment of sustainable development goals at the city level. Changes in the philosophy of urban transport planning, as evidenced by a shift from a mobility-focused perspective to an accessibility-centred mindset, as well as the paradigm shifts towards low-carbon low-impact modes of transport, are highlighted and the associated debates elucidated. Comparing and contrasting various policy and planning approaches exemplified by a range of urban planning and urban transport planning projects and programs introduced and implemented in both developed and developing countries, an overall emphasis is placed on how and why “sustainable cities” need to be considered at the broader regional and global context.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **GEOG3420. Transport and the society (6 credits)**

This course aims to encourage students to think about the role of transport in the society critically. This course provides a comprehensive overview of the theoretical approaches and empirical evidences on the relationship between transport and the society. Specific case studies are drawn extensively from different parts of the world. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding the role of government in shaping the transport-development relationship and in promoting transport sustainability.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

## **Department of Politics and Public Administration**

### **Introductory courses**

#### **POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)**

It is an introductory course offered to students with no previous background in political science. It covers the basic concepts, institutions and processes that one would encounter in the study of politics. Emphasis will be placed on the application of concepts to current issues, including (but not restricted to) that of Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**Advanced courses***Compulsory course***POLI2104. Research methods in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

Political scientists use a variety of methods to describe and explain political phenomena. Each method has its own purposes, assumptions, and limitations. This course covers the methods most commonly used in the study of politics and policies. Topics include nature of scientific inquiry; measurement and causal inference; the conduct of case studies and field research; the design of surveys and experiments; the description and analysis of data; and the role of research ethics. The course has a practical bent: its goal is to equip students with a working knowledge to put the methods to actual use.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

*Gateway courses***POLI2105. Introduction to comparative politics (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to a thematic approach in understanding politics in comparative settings. Drawing upon examples from liberal democracies, illiberal democracies and authoritarian states, the course examines the characteristics of the main political institutions and processes of the states, including political culture, political participation, the media, political parties, elections, the legislatures and executives. It compares how the various types of states govern, the types of political goods they can probably deliver and their drawbacks. Overall, it explores which way(s) is the best, and if democracy is universally applicable.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0009 are not allowed to take this course.

---

**POLI2106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)**

In this course students will be introduced to the central concepts in, and theoretical approaches to, the study of world politics both in historical and contemporary contexts. The first five classes will focus on the evolution of world politics as well as the concepts and predominant theoretical approaches used by students of international relations to understand and explain the field. The course then will explore specific issues in international relations. These include: the study of foreign policy and decision-making; international ethics; international economy; causes of conflict, war and peace; new security issues; and issues of global governance. Throughout the course students will be challenged to think critically about world politics and hone specific academic skills. The course provides a foundation for further study in world politics.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**POLI2107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)**

This course addresses some fundamental questions in the field of political theory: Why do we need the state? How to justify it? Who should rule? What rights and liberties should citizens have? What are the obligations and responsibilities that citizens owe to one another? Through



addressing these questions this course provides students with a broad introduction to the major concepts and thinkers associated with western political theory – concepts such as authority, democracy, liberty, rights, justice and property, and thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and Mill.

This is a “gateway” course, and it is very strongly recommended that students complete this course before enrolling in any other political theory classes.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI2108. Introduction to public administration (6 credits)**

The purpose of this gateway course is to introduce students to the fundamental concepts and theories of public administration. Students will gain an overview of both issues and practices related to the public administration. The course focuses on the traditions, environment, politics, and core functions of public administration.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI1002 are not allowed to take this course.

---

*Capstone courses*

**POLI4092. Capstone experience: research internship in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

Students will have the opportunity to perform basic research under the supervision of a faculty member. The internship includes meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant materials, assisting in an ongoing empirical research project, and writing an internship report.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**POLI4109. Capstone experience: directed project in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

Students will do an empirical research project on a specific topic under a teacher’s supervision. The project involves meeting with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, conducting empirical research projects, and writing a project report.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

*Elective courses*

**POLI3001. Special topics in political science (6 credits)**

This course will focus on topics drawn from various areas of political science. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3002. Special topics in political theory (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in political theory. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

#### **POLI3004. Bureaucracy and the public (6 credits)**

This course examines the political, legal and social dimensions of interaction between bureaucracies and the public. Consideration will be given to the effectiveness of complaint-handling institutions, such as the ombudsman, Freedom of Information Acts, secrecy provisions and the roles played by street-level bureaucrats.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

#### **POLI3005. Capitalism and social justice (6 credits)**

This course discusses the morality of capitalism with reference to such issues as exploitation, social justice and equality. Topics include the philosophical defence of free-market capitalism, egalitarian theories of social justice, Marxist critique of capitalism, the concept of exploitation, and welfare rights.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

#### **POLI3010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)**

This course discusses basic and practical issues concerning the nature, justification, and limits of democracy. Topics include the concept and foundations of democracy, participatory democracy, the elitist challenge to democracy, Marxist critique of capitalist democracy, rational choice approaches to democracy, and others.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

#### **POLI3012. East Asian political economy (6 credits)**

This course aims to examine the political processes that underlie the rapid economic transformation of East Asian countries. We will mainly cover Japan and the newly industrializing economies, namely Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea, but comparisons with China and other emerging economies such as Malaysia and Thailand will also be made. We will first introduce the salient features of the East Asian model of development and we will then analyze the pattern of political development, the relations between the state and other political actors, the development of administrative system, as well as the impact of international relations and strategic factors on the domestic political and economic processes of these cases.

Eligibility: Students who have taken FOSS0010 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

#### **POLI3015. Ethics and public affairs (6 credits)**

This course examines major public issues in contemporary societies from the perspectives of ethics and political theory. It aims to enhance students' abilities to critically analyze controversial

ethical issues in public affairs. Topics include the nature and methods of moral arguments, major approaches in ethics and political theory, and selected studies of current public issues in the fields of global ethics, market ethics, and political and administrative ethics.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI3019. Hong Kong and the world (6 credits)**

Hong Kong's international character has been vital to its prosperity and vitality. While Hong Kong's 'foreign affairs portfolio' is controlled by China, Hong Kong retains considerable autonomy in shaping its international destiny. What global course should Hong Kong leaders chart? This class will examine the Special Administrative Region's unique international status, its complex identity as a Chinese world city, and its track record in facing the challenges and opportunities associated with today's highly interdependent global system.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3020. Hong Kong politics (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the legal, political and institutional structure of the Hong Kong government. The political culture and attitudes of the Hong Kong people are discussed. Other topics include the Chief Executive, legislative politics, constitutional politics, public opinion, pressure groups, political parties, mass media, and Beijing's policy toward Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**POLI3022. Contemporary Chinese politics (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to contemporary Chinese politics. The main objective is to understand the ideology, institutions and processes of the contemporary Chinese political system and explore the socio-economic consequences, achievements, and problems of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3023. Special topics in Chinese politics (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in Chinese politics. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3024. Special topics in public administration (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in public administration. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3025. Managerial skills in public organizations (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the activities and functions of managers in public organizations. Emphasis is put on the environment and context within which public managers operate, and the various managerial skills and tools that are essential to effective public managers. Students are expected to acquire skills to manage conflicts, lead, manage resources, communicate, and make decisions in the context of public organizations. Reference is made to the experiences in various public or non-profit organizations in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **POLI3027. Public policy-making: theories and application (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to major theoretical frameworks that have been devised to understand and explain public policy-making. The main questions asked are: why are certain policies made instead of others? What are the major factors that affect public policy-making? Empirical studies from both Hong Kong and elsewhere are included to illustrate the application of the theories.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3031. Politics of economic reform in China (6 credits)**

This course examines the politics of economic reform in contemporary China. Issues covered include: the connections between politics and economics, the political debates over economic reforms, the rationale and themes of the economic reform programme, and the social and political consequences resulting from the implementation of these reforms. Reform policies to be studied include rural reform, enterprise reform, central-local relations as well as foreign economic policy.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **POLI3034. Public administration in China (6 credits)**

This course aims to examine the context, structure, people and important issues in managing the public sector in contemporary China. The course provides students a basic understanding of China's public administration system and its reforms. Several very important topics will be covered, including the relationship between the Party and the government, government structure and intergovernmental relations, and how to manage public employees, and key issues in policy-making and implementation in contemporary China. This course encourages students to conduct group project, which will allow students to learn public policy analysis targeting real hot issues unfolding during China's reform era. Sample policy areas include food safety management, waste management and crisis management. The newly emerged modes of public service delivery in China will also be discussed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3035. Public administration in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

Public administration in Hong Kong has been going through a series of reform over the last decade or so. This course introduces students to the major issues confronting the bureaucracy, in particular its relationships to other actors in the political system and questions of accountability.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**POLI3037. Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)**

This course seeks to improve students' capacities to analyze and interpret the context, institutions, processes and key issues in the management of people in public organizations with special reference to Hong Kong from the perspective of agency theory. There are two guest lectures offered by public managers. By the end of the course, students should be able to critically evaluate the control and accountability problems involved in managing the public sector work force and strategies to overcome them. Students should also be able to analyze and evaluate cases in public sector human resource management.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course in the production of advice for public decisions and actions. This course emphasizes both the art and craft of policy analysis. The "art" dimension focuses on the skills in defining problems for analysis. The "craft" dimension, on the other hand, is concerned with theories, skills, and techniques that can be used to analyze, design, and assess policy options.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**POLI3040. Public sector management (6 credits)**

Public administration is conducted through a variety of public organizations and institutional arrangements that collectively constitute the public sector. This course aims to provide students an understanding on the key issues of public sector management. It is structured into four parts: (1) the scope and structure of public sector, including the features and operation of various types of public organizations; (2) the human resource management issues within public organizations; (3) various modes of public service delivery; and (4) public sector reform strategies. Reference is made to the experience in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3044. American democracy (6 credits)**

American politics captivates domestic and international audiences. In order to construct informed opinions on the American political process, what should politics students outside of the United States know about institutions in the US government and the US political system? The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to American politics, with a focus on Congressional and Presidential elections. Students will learn about the philosophical and constitutional basis of the American political system, the contours of American federalism, the interaction between the 3 formal (executive, judiciary, and legislative) and 3 informal (bureaucracy, media, and scientific advisors) branches of government in the US, and how elections reveal the internal dynamics of the American political system.

Assessment: 100% examination (2 term examinations, 1 final examination)

---

**POLI3047. United States foreign policy (6 credits)**

How does one make sense of the seeming "arrogance" of U.S. foreign policy? By enhancing student understanding of the causes and consequences of American international political choices, this course seeks to groom well-informed and objective critics of U.S. foreign policy. The course will examine the intellectual foundations associated with and the domestic political actors involved in U.S. international policy formulation and implementation. Students will then have the opportunity to apply this knowledge in a critical evaluation of some of the major international policy decisions made by the U.S. since WWII. The course will conclude with a discussion of the future of U.S. foreign policy, paying particular attention to the impact of the 9-11 attacks on the American world view.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **POLI3051. Issues in Chinese political philosophy (6 credits)**

A comparative study of Chinese and Western political philosophy, with special emphasis on Confucianism and liberalism. Topics include the nature of classical Confucian political thought, the developments of the Confucian traditions in response to local political changes and to the challenges presented by western liberalism, the contemporary discourse on Confucianism and human rights, freedom, and democracy, and other related issues. Reference will be made to Chinese materials.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

### **POLI3052. International relations of East Asia (6 credits)**

This course helps students to have a better understanding of major trends and issues in international relations of East Asia. Instead of providing a comprehensive survey of the history, culture, and national policies of countries in the region, it mainly addresses four issues in the course: What are major trends in regional IR? What is the source of conflict in the region? What are the common interests that unite peoples and states of East Asia? How does the region organize itself? It explains dynamics and patterns of regional international relations in a broad geopolitical and geoeconomic context. Topics in discussion include major powers' role in the region, the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan Strait, ASEAN, Southeastern Asia and regional institution-building.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **POLI3059. China and the world (6 credits)**

China's place in the world has changed dramatically since the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. How do we account for the transformation of the country's position from being a Soviet ally challenging the West, to an independent radical revolutionary state, and then a reform-minded country eager to join the international community? As communism collapsed elsewhere after the end of the Cold War, China is becoming an emerging global power practicing "socialism with Chinese characteristics". How do we understand and analyze China's relations with the rest of the world? This course examines China's interaction with the rest of the world since 1949, with reference on competing perspectives including power-political, economic inter-dependence, and historical-cultural analysis. The course concludes with a critical assessment of China's position in a globalizing world.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3060. Public financial management (6 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of financial management in the public sector from a theoretical and practical perspective. The focus is primarily on the conceptual, methodological and institutional aspects of public expenditure and revenue management. The subject is approached largely from an economic standpoint, but there is also some exposure to accounting principles. However, no previous knowledge of either economics or accounting is assumed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3061. Hong Kong and South China: the political economy of regional development and cooperation (6 credits)**

The growing integration between Hong Kong and South China has profound implications not only for this region, but also for China and Asia as a whole. This course aims to analyze such an important development and its many implications. It is divided into three parts. Part I offers an overview of the development of the South China region. Theoretical approaches in the study of regionalism, intergovernmental relations and globalization and their relevance for understanding South China will also be examined. Part II analyzes the social, economic and political links between Hong Kong and Greater China and the development experience of South China since the late 1970s. Part III will focus on several key issues in regional development and cooperation in the South China region, including intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms, economic and technological development, demographic flows, boundary control, transportation and infra-structural development, as well as environmental management.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3064/LLAW3080. Governance and law (6 credits)**

This course seeks to understand why the state regulates certain activities and behaviour in society, what different forms of regulation exist, when and what kind of legal regulation is deemed necessary, how legal regulation is enforced, and checks and balances against abuse in enforcement. This course is jointly taught by staff from the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Department of Law. The main objective of the course is to explore the interface between the study of Politics and Law in understanding governance. Relevant case studies will be included for illustration and discussion.

Assessment: 50% open-book in-hall examination, 30% research paper, 20% group project presentation.

---

**POLI3065. Public organization and management (6 credits)**

This course will examine the fundamental theories of (i) organizational behaviours; (ii) organizational structures; (iii) decision making processes; and (iv) organizational management with particular emphasis on public organizations. To substantiate the validity of the theories, emphasis is placed on the application of theory to various organizational settings including public and nonprofit organizations, and the local, state and federal levels of bureaucracies. At the end of

the course, students will have obtained the ability to develop critical perspectives on the modus operandi of organizations and to formulate problem-solving mechanisms under complex decision-making situations.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3067. Liberalism and its limits (6 credits)**

This course explores a set of fundamental issues in liberalism. Liberalism, which is arguably the most influential tradition of political theory today, is about the proper scope of individual freedom and state power. Some of the issues to be discussed in this course are: What is freedom and what is its ground? Under what conditions should the state interfere with individual freedom? Should the state ban or discourage unethical or worthless ways of life? Should the state coerce people for their own good? Should we have the freedom to exclude people whom we don't like? What is so valuable about personal autonomy? The course aims to assess the strengths and limits of liberalism by examining the arguments for and against the liberal views on these issues.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **POLI3069. Public policy, politics and social change (6 credits)**

It is a common belief that public policies aim to control socially harmful behavior and to advance desirable, collective societal ends. Contrary to this belief, some policies have only served as tools to strengthen political and economic power of certain groups (or countries) at the expense of others. This course examines this dark side of public policies by addressing critical questions that include: whose interests are reflected in the policies? what are the institutional sources of policies/decisions? how does the powerful manipulate public opinion? who benefits and who pays for the costs of these policies in what ways? etc. By exploring answers to these questions, students are expected to identify sources of widespread injustice in contemporary societies. To conceptualize the core ideas, the course engages in the analysis of propaganda techniques, U.S. foreign policy, and the distribution of hazardous wastes, etc. The course will consist of a combination of lectures and group discussions. Active class participation is required.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

### **POLI3070. Language and advice in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

How does language relate to political life and the practice of public administration? The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the study and use of language in politics and public administration. This course will introduce students to the use of political language as an important part of political practice and political philosophy. Students will be introduced to the idea of political language as an historically and culturally contingent form of communication that shapes and is shaped by the institutions of the state. Students will come to understand the importance of deploying political language clearly for the task of advising political leaders on policy choices while facing civil servants and ordinary citizens. Students will apply the knowledge they gain in this course to their political environment by composing letters and/or memos offering advice to political and civil service leaders on important policy matters currently facing Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.



---

**POLI3072. Normative theory of Public Administration (6 credits)**

In this course students will explore dominant theoretical paradigms of the study of public administration with the goal of identifying and critiquing the norms that inform the theories themselves and subsequent related empirical studies. Normative questions that will be probed in this course include: Who are public administrators? How do public administrators gather knowledge? How ought this knowledge be deployed and to what ends? What role to public administrators play in establishing and maintaining the good life? Are public administrators political actors? How do public administrators and public administration fit into the theoretical study of politics?

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3075/LLAW3142. Law and politics of constitutions (6 credits)**

Almost all modern states are constitutional states in the sense that they, in one form or the other, have a constitution. A constitution is not only a legal document; it is also a political instrument. For what purpose was the constitution made; for what functions could it serve; and on which it can be sustained are questions that cannot be answered without considering the interaction between law and politics in the making, implementation and development of the constitution. This course applies an interdisciplinary approach and a comparative perspective to analyze intertwining issues of law and politics concerning constitutions like: constitutional interpretation theories, the roles of political parties, religion, judiciary and the public in the constitutional processes, and the significance of dialogue in constitutional deliberation.

Assessment: 50% open book examination, 30% research paper, 20% group project presentation.

---

**POLI3076. Special topics in international politics (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in international politics. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3077. Special topics in comparative politics (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in comparative politics. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

**POLI3078. Humanity in globalization (6 credits)**

The study of globalization occurs at differing levels of analysis. System level studies, for example, may focus on the interactions between states and multinational corporations. Population level studies focus on the impact that globalizing forces inflict upon distinct populations, variously defined as either small groups, threatened cultures, or prospering nations. The intent of this course is to introduce students to the study of globalization at the population level, with an explicit focus on small groups defined by a variety of characteristics such as age,

race, ethnicity, language, or religious affiliation. Topics of study will include: domestic and international migration patterns; group-state interaction and resistance; globalization, identity formation and domestic welfare; patterns of consumption; and the impact of inter-state and global travel on domestic political expectations.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**POLI3079. Global justice (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction into some of the main issues in the field of global justice, such as legitimacy and authority in international politics, self-determination, human rights, global distributive justice and the normative relations between the rich and the poor, the significance of borders, and immigration.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0071 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)**

This course explores the political dimensions of global economic relations. The objectives of this course are to give students a better appreciation of major problems and dilemmas of contemporary global economy and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in the global economy. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on global political economy. The course then examines distinct issue areas: globalization, development, trade, capital flows, financial crises, multinational production, environmental degradation, world hunger, and the transnational movement of people.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI3081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained in their global studies courses by engaging in interactive problem-solving exercises led by members of the community engaged in the process of creating globalization and/or protecting local identities. Through the use of interactive media, research-intensive teaching methods, and interactive, community-led lectures, students will gain knowledge of the nuances and contours of global issues. Students will produce joint position papers and debates on policy arenas discussed, taking into account their role as social innovators and global citizens.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**POLI3085. Globalization and healthcare policy (6 credits)**

Modern states spend increasing amounts of their budgets on healthcare. Consumers also spend ever larger amounts of their income on health related services and products. How governments respond to the healthcare needs of citizens is a defining aspect of that government. In this course, students will examine the public healthcare systems of nations around the world, focusing on issues of basic healthcare provision, healthcare funding and insurance, regulation of healthcare, inclusion of advanced healthcare techniques (i.e., ECMO treatment of neonates, care of brain-dead individuals, genomic medicine, and organ transplantation), and public healthcare

administration in the face of global health threats (i.e. influenzas, SARS, and MDR/XDR TB). Having taken this course, students will be familiar with one aspect of the global conduct of domestic politics.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3086. Leadership skills in public administration (6 credits)**

The policy making and management structure of the HKSAR Government have undergone major developments in the past ten years. Significant changes are expected in the next ten years with the expansion of the Accountability System, the increasing influence of the media and various civic groups, and the need to make arrangements for the introduction of universal suffrage in the election of the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council in 2017 and possibly 2020 respectively. University graduates considering a career in the public service will benefit from a good understanding of the formal and informal decision-making and management process within the government. The course will also provide students with practical management and public presentation skills when they start their career upon graduation. This course will explain the constitutional, policy making and management framework of the HKSAR government and associated major recent developments, the changing role of the civil service, particularly the Administrative Service, and the impending changes to public governance in the next ten years and beyond.

The primary focus of the course is to develop the students' management and public presentation skills through various exercises such as discussions, written assignments, projects and presentations on selected topics. Students attending this course are expected to participate actively in these exercises.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **POLI3088. Human security in the global context (6 credits)**

What is Human Security? How does the security and well-being of the individual relate to the security of the state? When we look around the world today, are our national security apparatuses providing us with the security that we need? Human Security refers to an emerging paradigm for understanding global politics whose proponents believe that the world requires a more comprehensive notion of security, one that marries the traditionally separate fields of development and defense studies and links the traditionally opposing principles of human rights and state sovereignty. Human Security proponents argue that today's security threats go beyond our traditional understanding of defense threats, (e.g. attack from another state) to include poverty, economic inequality, diseases, human rights abuses, environmental pollution, and natural disasters. This course will review the emergence of and major themes behind the Human Security paradigm and will ask if and how Human Security can be meaningfully applied in a policy context. The use of real-world case studies and simulation exercises throughout the course uses will help students understand and apply the material covered. Students are encouraged to make their own critical judgments about the value of the Human Security agenda towards the end of the course.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3089. Global studies internship (12 credits)**

Global Studies Internships seek to enhance students' understanding and skills of managing development in a globalized world through conducting development projects coordinated by international development organizations and academic extension units. Students taking Global Studies Internships will explore the intersection of theoretical learning of Global Studies and development works in a globalized world. Students will be involved in the actual planning, management, and delivery of development projects that seek to empower local communities to cope with problems ranging from environment protection to disaster management, natural resource conservation to community building in developing countries.

The Global Studies internship is comprised of two components. The first is a series of workshops and sessions, aiming at equipping students with knowledge about development issues, essential techniques for conducting development works and essential skills for working with international development agencies. The second is work placements in different international development organizations. Students will work closely with staff of host organizations for development projects. Global Studies Internship will take place during summer semester.

On completion of the Global Studies Internship, students are required to give a presentation on what they have learned and achieved in the internships and to produce an extensive report critically reflecting upon their experiences after engaging in development works.

This course can be taken for fulfilling the Faculty's Global Citizenship requirement. If students take such option, they are required to complete another 12 credits from the PPA course list for fulfilling the major or minor requirement.

Assessment: 100% coursework  
 Workshop assignments (20%)  
 Placement performance (40%)  
 Final report and presentation (40%)

---

### **POLI3091. History of western political thought (6 credits)**

This course serves as an introduction and survey of the major currents of western political thought. The material surveyed in this course includes a chronology of major texts of political theory, starting with the early Greeks and ending with thinkers emblematic of the advent of modern liberalism. Students enrolled in this course will gain competencies in the study of politics as a unique human endeavor, with attention paid to major themes and debates in the history of political thought. These themes include the nature of man as political animal, the role of the individual and the community as center of political decision-making, the shape of the office of authority, and the theory of the state. Having taken this course, students will be fluent in the description of individual thinkers and their relationship to one another, as well as the relationship of prominent thinkers' arguments to current political debates and political practices around the globe.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **POLI3093. Understanding social protest (6 credits)**

From Hong Kong's political demonstration on July 1<sup>st</sup> to the protest rally organized by your student union, social protest is undoubtedly an important form of politics. Outside of the formal and institutionalized channels, people do take politics onto the streets and use disruptive means to

achieve political ends from time to time. This course seeks to provide students with grounding in the basic tools of understanding social protest and social movement. In addition to Hong Kong, cases will be drawn from many different countries—from the American civil rights movement to the 2007 democratic demonstrations in Burma, from Gandhi’s *satyagraha* (non-violent resistance) to the more recent “color revolutions” in Europe and Central Asia etc. Students will also learn about influential social movement leaders past and present, such as Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Mandela, Mao, Lech Walesa, Aung San Suu Kyi and more.

Note: Students who have taken CCCH9009 Protests, rebellions and revolution are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **POLI3094. Political participation: why and how? (6 credits)**

Why and how do people participate in politics? What are the channels through which people make their voices heard and interests represented? Why does political participation take different forms in different countries? Why is participation important for democracy to sustain and non-democracies to change? This course will examine the dynamics and patterns of political participation in both democratic *and* non-democratic societies. Topics will cover voting & election, political party, representative institution, public opinion, civic organization, mass media, lobbying, interest group and informal politics in democratic societies as well as the modes, scope and impact of political participation under non-democratic regimes.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3095. Civil society and governance (6 credits)**

The main objective of the course is to help students understand the concept of civil society, its historical circumstances and theoretical approaches, and the role of civil society in public governance. Topics include conceptions of civil society in the history of political thought and contemporary discourse; roles and impacts of civil society; trends of civil society development; theoretical approaches to civil society; social movements; legitimacy and accountability of civil society organizations; legal framework for civil society organizations, and the role of civil society in public governance.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **POLI3096. Citizenship, culture and community (6 credits)**

This module surveys major debates surrounding citizenship, culture and community in political thinking. It addresses important questions such as: Should citizens assume an active role in political life? Is it ever justifiable for citizens to break the law? What is the value of culture and community? How does the experience of ‘multiculturalism’ challenge traditional conceptions of citizenship and community? Is nationalism a positive or negative ethos in political communities? Are political communities being transformed by globalization? Is there any such thing as ‘global citizenship’?

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3097. Modernity and globalization (6 credits)**

The concept of ‘modernity’ refers to a series of developments that transformed the world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the emergence of the modern state, democracy, capitalism and modern industry. The concept of ‘globalization’ refers to a series of similar dynamics in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, such as the emergence of global governance, new forms of global trade and industry, and apparent transformations in cultures and societies. This module surveys some of the most important debates about modernity and globalization in social and political thought, addressing important questions such as: What does it mean to be ‘modern’? Is modernity a distinctively ‘Western’ experience? What is ‘globalization’? Is globalization a transformation or continuation of modernity? Does globalization mark the ‘triumph’ of the ‘West’?

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

---

### **POLI3098. Nonprofit management (6 credits)**

This course is designed to advance students’ understanding of the management and operation of organizations in the nonprofit sector. In particular, it examines issues unique to the governance and administration of nonprofits, including board management, fundraising, philanthropy, nonprofit accounting and reporting, leadership, and network management. Students will learn both the theories and practical techniques required for an effective manager in nonprofit organizations.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **POLI3099. Perspectives and practice in world politics (6 credits)**

This is an intermediate level course in international relations. The objectives of this course are to encourage students to think critically about core scholarly readings in the field of international relations, and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in world politics. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on international relations. The course then examines distinct issue areas: international economy, war, terrorism, environment, regional integration, globalization, and international institutions.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **POLI3100. Social contracts (6 credits)**

The course will introduce students to the three major traditions of social-contract theory, *viz.* the Hobbesian (“Classical”), Lockean (“Medieval”), and Rousseauian (“Modern”) traditions. They will not only learn about the intellectual history of each of these traditions but also examine their central texts in detail: Thomas Hobbes’ *Leviathan*, John Locke’s *Second Treatise*, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s *Social Contract*, respectively. Moreover, the course will emphasize their frequently overlapping concepts and concerns, including consent, equality, liberty, property, autonomy, the state of nature, commercial society, democratic self-government, and popular revolution.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination,

---

### **POLI3101. Human rights and culture differences (6 credits)**

---

The first part of the course introduces some of the best theories of human rights. The focus will be on theories (e.g. Gewirth, Griffin) which closely associate rights with the nature of human beings. We shall then examine whether the view of human nature at the basis of these theories is constrained by the culture in which they evolved. In the course of this investigation, we shall discuss various specific rights (against poverty; free speech) and thorny issues (positive vs. negative rights – who has the duties to provide?).

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI3102. Science, technology and public policy (6 credits)**

The course will introduce students to the vocabulary and issues related to governance, particularly public policy making, in a scientifically and technologically advanced society.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI3103. Politics of the Global South (6 credits)**

The course will introduce students to the main debates and to some of the basic concepts and skills used in the analysis of the politics of the Global South. The course will combine theoretical perspectives with case studies, and will focus on a series of issues relevant to understanding political processes in the Global South. The course will explore the genealogy of the “Third World” concept and its mutation into the “Global South”, historical processes of decolonization, and some of the political challenges facing the postcolonial world. Furthermore, lectures will cover topics such as development and modernization, migration and mobility, human security and political violence, environmental degradation and processes of urbanization, the emergence of global cities, and human rights and democratization.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0033 are not allowed to take this course.

---

**POLI3110. Dilemmas of humanitarian intervention (6 credits)**

To examine dilemmas of humanitarian intervention, the course looks not only at states but also at INGOs and the aid business, and not only at aid but also at wider forms of political engagement. It focuses on (a) the emergence of humanitarian intervention, (b) its contemporary nature, (c) success and failure, (d) moral challenges, and (e) ways forward. It requires small groups of course participants to select one developing country for in-depth study, both to deepen their learning and to build a platform for comparative analysis in class.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0076 in 2011-12 are not allowed to take this course.

Note: Students who have taken CCGL9036 Dilemmas of humanitarian intervention are not allowed to take this course.

---

**POLI3111. Social entrepreneurship and cross-sector collaboration (6 credits)**

Societies and the challenges they face have become ever more complex. Existing institutions and public policies may no longer be capable of addressing the new generations of social problems. Social entrepreneurship involves the recognition of a social problem and application of

entrepreneurial principles to organize, create, and manage a venture to effect social change. This course aims to provide students with an overview of the emerging field of social entrepreneurship that navigates across different societal sectors and aspires to apply innovative, entrepreneurial approaches to address many intractable social problems. The course seeks to stimulate students to think creatively of potential solutions and address the challenges of cross-sector collaboration in tackling public policy challenges.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0001 in 2012-13 are not allowed to take this course.

---

**POLI3112. Public policy and institutional design (6 credits)**

Public policy making, institutional design, and implementation are key issues in the study of public administration. In this course, students will gain an understanding of the policy making process from choosing the appropriate institutional structure to policy evaluation to managing different societal relations. With reference to some of the classics in the literature, various theories and concepts will be examined. To enhance students' understanding and making the theoretical ideas come to life, examples from Hong Kong and other comparative contexts will be discussed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0024 in 2012-13 are not allowed to take this course.

---

**POLI3113. On the ethics of violence (6 credits)**

This course discusses issues like the ethics of self- defense, punishment, necessity justifications for violence, torture, war, revolution and terrorism. It will also show that the ethics of violence is fundamental for a proper understanding of certain basic problems and principles in political philosophy and in the organisation of human societies.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3114. Understanding fair trade: a global movement (6 credits)**

In the age of globalization, "free trade" has become the world order and mantra for development, but the neoliberal promise has not always materialized for the poor countries. The fair trade movement developed in response, not only aiming to give producers a "fair" wage, but also build a direct and more equal relationship between producer and consumer. But how should the movement position itself when it is both "in and against" the market? What price does it have to pay to grow its influence? Can it master the game of corporate business without losing itself? Is the involvement of big multinational corporations a good thing? This course provides an overview of the fair trade movement and explores the challenges it faces, such as its promotion in the world's freest economy—Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3115. Politics and public opinion (6 credits)**

Public opinion is crucial for political actors to maintain their legitimacy, while opinion surveys have become an essential part of any modern liberal democratic society. Although Hong Kong is far from being a democratic society, its governance is heavily influenced by public opinion. This



course examines the role of public opinion in the policy and electoral cycles of Hong Kong, with reference to different types of opinion surveys, including instant, tracking, panel, rolling, deliberative, and exit surveys. The process of opinion formation and the impact of opinion surveys at different stages of the policy and electoral cycles will be examined.  
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**POLI3116. Theories and practice of social leadership (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to give students a fundamental and practical understanding of social leadership. It is designed for students from a variety of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences in summer internships and extra-curricular activities. As society becomes increasingly diversified that calls for social innovation and requires high adaptability and contextual intelligence of social leaders, students need to be equipped with mindsets and skill-sets that cross over various sectors in public administration, business, society and the academia. The purpose of this course is to significantly increase students' capacity to sustain the demands of leadership and to strengthen students' ability to exercise both leadership and authority.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**POLI3117. Special topics in public policy (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in public policy. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.  
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

---

**POLI3118. Special topics in NGO studies (6 credits)**

This course will focus on some major topics in NGOs studies. Specific titles and course descriptions are available in the department website.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**POLI3119. Causes of international war (6 credits)**

This course studies the causes of war. Competing theories of war are discussed; different methods of testing the theories are considered; and illustrative historical cases are examined, with a focus on East Asia. Also covered are the implications of nuclear weapons on international security, and the consequences of war on societies and individual human lives. This is an advanced course that includes a major research investigation project.  
Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI3076 in 2013-14 or 2014-15 are not allowed to take this course.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**POLI3120. Governing Greater China: The challenge of intergovernmental relations and regional development (6 credits)**

This course aims to examine the changing relations between Mainland China and Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau, with a focus on the roles played by Hong Kong in China's development. This

course is organized into three parts. Part I overviews major concepts and approaches in the study of intergovernmental relations and regional development, the historical development of central-local relations in contemporary China, and the changing links between Hong Kong and the Mainland in the pre-1997 and post-1997 periods. Part II examines several key topics, such as the role of Hong Kong in China's economic reform and development, cross-boundary cooperation between Hong Kong and south China, China's regional development and competition between Hong Kong and other cities, as well as the politics of identify and social integration between the two areas. Part III explores the prospect of intergovernmental relations and regional development in Greater China by examining the cases of Taiwan and Macau and their implications for Hong Kong's role in the development of this region.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **POLI3121. Environmental policy (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide introduction into the principles of environmental policy. It introduces fundamental theories and basic principles applied to environmental policy analysis. This course will help students to understand how economic incentives originate environmental problems and what roles government and public policy play. This course continues with discussions on various environmental policy issues, including international issues and energy.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI3117 in 2014-15 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 40% examination, 60% coursework.

---

### **POLI3122. Strategic leadership in civil society organizations (6 credits)**

The course is designed to advance students' understanding of strategic leadership in civil society organisations. Strategic leadership involves interpreting the environment, crafting strategies, and building an organization that thrives in dynamic environments. A vibrant civil society calls for strategic leadership that goes beyond a single agency's interest, is driven by a collective vision and drives social change. In addition to learning theories of strategic leadership, students will practice strategic thinking and gain a deeper understanding of development of strategies in response to challenges arising from changing social needs, growing demands for social services and collective action problems in service provision.

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI3024 in 2013-14 or 2014-15 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 50% examination, 50% coursework.

---

### **POLI4046. Thesis in politics and public administration (12 credits)**

This is a two-semester project catered for highly motivated students that are interested in graduate studies and research careers. The course should be taken during the senior year under the supervision of a faculty member. The thesis should be at least 10,000 words long and individually written. It is expected to be a substantive piece of scholarship that demonstrates critical reflections and original research findings on a topic agreed by the supervisor. Students must have achieved a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5. They should submit a research proposal to their intended supervisor and secure the latter's agreement to supervise their thesis before enrolling in the course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**ECON2276. State, law and the economy (6 credits)**

Please refer to the School of Economics and Finance website for course description.

---

**EUST3010. European political and economic institutions and processes (6 credits)**

Please refer to the European Studies Programme website for course description.

---

**Department of Psychology****Introductory Courses**

Student who intends to major in Psychology must have completed PSYC1001 and PSYC1004.

**PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)**

Discussion of basic concepts in psychology and a preliminary survey of representative work carried out in various areas of psychological investigation, together with an investigation at some length of one such area. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research techniques in psychology. It is designed to provide students with the basic background in research design and data analysis. The logic of statistical inference and scientific explanation, the merits and limitations of quantitative approaches to the study of psychological phenomena, and research ethics will all be discussed. Permission of Department Head is required for enrollment. Priority will be given to students planning to major in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**Advanced Courses**

---

**Department of Psychology**

In addition to class sessions, each course may include a practical element on which candidates may expect to spend about two hours per week.

The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and by assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified.

**PSYC2002. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)**

This course surveys the major concepts and techniques in the field of psychometrics, and provides students with some hands-on experience with commonly used tests. Topics covered

include: the context of testing and measurement; the testing process; test standardization; reliability and validity; intelligence and its appraisal; personality assessment; special domain testing; occupational applications; large-scale measurements; ethics and prospects. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

### **PSYC2005. Introduction to counselling and therapeutic psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides a theoretical foundation for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of counselling or to explore their potential for professional training in mental health. Some experiential learning will be used, including major approaches; skills and practice; ethics and the limitations of counseling working with various clinical and non-clinical populations; cultural values and socio-political contexts; outcome and process research. Students with knowledge of personality and abnormal psychology preferred. Students who have taken SOWK2117 / SOWK0117 are not allowed to enroll PSYC2005. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

### **PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers how humans learn to deal with information from the environment. Topics include various aspects of perception, memory, concept structure and learning, and thinking. Students will be involved in conducting experiments on cognitive functioning as part of the coursework. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004

---

### **PSYC2009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to developmental psychology from a life-span perspective. The topics include: basic concepts and theories of human development; research methodology and issues in the study of developmental change; biological, environmental and social influences on development; processes of physical development over the life-span; attachment and emotional development; development of perception, language, cognition and morality; development of personality and social relationships. Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisites: PSYC1001.

---

### **PSYC2010. History and issues in psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an in-depth study of psychology within an historically- and issue-based framework. Beginning with the philosophical and physiological forerunners to how the modern discipline became an experimental, scientific project, it will move on to examine some of the debates in the West in the first half of the twentieth century which either forestalled or encouraged the use of mental concepts and the (re)emergence of cognitive psychology. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2016. The psychology of stress and health (6 credits)**

This course adopts a biopsychosocial approach in exploring current issues and research on stress and health. Special emphasis is placed on the Hong Kong situation. Topics covered include: concepts of stress; the roles of cognition, personality and physiology in the stress response; social stressors; coping, stress management and health promotion; concepts of health and wellness; cultural implications. Students in this course shall undertake independent research projects. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)**

This course will critically examine a number of theories of personality as exemplified in the lives of some of the significant figures in the field. The relationship of specific theories to practical applications, personality assessment and psychotherapeutic techniques may be included. The major aims of the course are to provide a survey of the breadth and complexity of this field and to provide a perspective from which to examine assumptions about human nature and the evaluation of behaviour. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)**

The course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers social perception, social cognition, social motivation, attitudes and attitude change, relationship between attitude and behaviour, aggression, helping, interpersonal attraction, social influence on individual behaviour and group dynamics. The impact of Chinese culture on various social behaviours will form part of the discussion. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to biological aspects of behaviour. The topics include: biological bases of behaviour, development, learning, memory, and abnormal psychology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; psychophysiology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2032. Engineering psychology (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to an emerging field within Engineering Psychology – interaction design – that considers different aspects of human biology and behavior and takes a user-centered approach in the practice of designing interactive digital products, environments, systems, and services. Skills learned in this course include (1) user-centered and goal-directed design techniques, (2) practical and scientific principles behind the design of interactive systems, (3) quantitative and qualitative analysis of interaction designs, (4) visual design as it pertains to user interaction (e.g., visibility, grouping, iconography), and (5) design communication and teamwork.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**PSYC2035. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)**

This course focuses on how psychological theories are applied to learning, teaching, and facilitation of human growth. The topics include major developmental theories and their application to learning and instruction, learning theories from both behavioral and cognitive traditions, effective teaching methods and practices, learners' individual and group differences, achievement motivation, and assessment. Students will be involved in learning activities that require self-reflection and integration of daily life experience. Assessment: 100% coursework. Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2036. Special topics in psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an opportunity to study in some depth an area of psychology of interest to students and a staff member alike. Individual topics may have special requirements for eligibility. Students taking this course may select one topic from a list of topics to be announced in the semester immediately prior to that in which they are taken. Assessment: 100% coursework. Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2038. Psychology of language and bilingualism (6 credits)**

A study of the processes involved in language comprehension and production, including the acquisition of native as well as second languages, the cognitive bases of language learning and use, the psychology of reading and reading disabilities, the comparison of psychological aspects of the Chinese language and other languages, cognitive functions of the bilingual, the bilingual brain, psychological factors in second language learning. Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)**

An introduction to sensation and perception, with an emphasis on the psychology of seeing. Specific topics include the following: examination of the functional properties of sensory systems (e.g., auditory system, color vision, vestibular system, touch and kinaesthesia); phenomenology of sensation and perception; psychophysical limits of perceptual systems; goals of sensory coding; structure and evolution of sensory systems; theories of perception. Perceptual experiments will be conducted by students in laboratory classes.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2059. Current issues in applied developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course will explore applications of developmental psychology to issues pertaining to improving the well-being of children and their families. Topics include: The quality of child care, patterns and ranges of normal child behaviors, child-rearing practices, developmentally

challenged children, legal and public-policy issues. Assessment: 100% coursework  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2060. Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course is designed to extend students' quantitative and research skills so that they are prepared to conduct their own independent empirical research. It will build on what students already learned in PSYC1004 to cover more advanced quantitative methods commonly used in Psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004.

---

**PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)**

This course will provide a broad exposure to both theory and practice in clinical psychology. It is a foundation course in mental health, counselling and other psychological services. A wide array of types of mental disorders will be examined. Important themes will be emphasized such as the continuum in behaviour from mental health to mental illness, the diathesis-stress and nature-nurture models and epidemiology. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisites: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2063. Industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)**

This course surveys the complex relationships that exist between people, their social environment, and their work. Topics may include job analysis, personnel selection, personnel training, performance management, vocational guidance, work motivation, job satisfaction, leadership, group relations, conflicts, organization design, occupational stress, and errors. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)**

This course acquaints students with the realm of health psychology. Students will gain (a) an understanding of the ways psychosocial factors influence health concerns and healthcare utilization, and (b) familiarity with basic concepts that guide the work of health professionals. Topics covered in this course include health behaviors, coping with health-related stress, social support and health, psychoimmunology, management of chronic illnesses, and patient-practitioner interaction. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course allows students to gain an understanding of the workings of the mind in the context of the technological advances that are increasingly shaping our lives and our society. The course introduces students to the domain, goals and methods of Cognitive Science, showing how different disciplines converge in their enquiry into how the brain works. Lectures will present case studies highlighting research findings which show how similar questions about the

functioning of the human mind are answered from the perspective of each contributing discipline.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: COMP1117 or LING1000 or PHIL1012 or PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course is a tutorial-based reading course in specialist areas of cognitive science research and interest. It will include presentations and group discussion of research and issues of interest within cognitive science, providing an opportunity for students to examine critically the cognitive science approach to understanding intelligent systems. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC2066.

---

**PSYC2069. Psychology of motivation (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to theories and research on human motivation. The course will cover a variety of topics including: psychological needs, intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, goal setting and goal striving, personal efficacy beliefs, self-regulation, academic value, and role of motivation in optimal functioning, achievement, and well-being. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2070. Love, marriage, sex, and family (6 credits)**

Throughout our lifespan, human beings are involved in various kinds of personal relationships. People make friends, fall in love, break up, get married, and raise a family. Some go through divorce, and some have to make decisions on cohabitation, adoption, and abortion. This course is an application of social psychological knowledge to the analyses of these relationships and events. The purpose of this course is to enable students to use a psychological perspective to rethink (or start to think) about such intimate relationships. After taking this course, students will be better informed of the psychosocial (and to some extent, legal and medical) implications of decisions they will be making with regard to their own intimate relationships, and be better equipped to advise others on the subject. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**PSYC2071. Judgments and decision making (6 credits)**

To understand the psychological factors involved with human judgment and decision making. We will contrast human decision making with normative theories of rational choice, and survey psychological evidence of systematic decision biases and errors in judgments. We will discuss the heuristics and biases approach to judgment and decision errors, and critiques of this approach. Real world examples will be presented from the domains of medicine, economics, and consumer choice. Assessment: 100% coursework.  
Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

---

**PSYC2072. Research internship in psychology I (6 credits)**



Students will have an opportunity to learn to do research as an intern in ongoing empirical research projects under a teacher's supervision in the Department of Psychology. Students spend 10-12 hours per week assisting various research activities. The internship includes participating in lab meetings or meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report. Information about research projects offering internship placements and application procedure will be available in the Psychology Department webpage. Internship I and II can be done with the same supervisor or two different supervisors. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **PSYC2073. Research internship in psychology II (6 credits)**

Please refer to Research internship in psychology I for the course description. Internship I and II can be done with the same supervisor or two different supervisors. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)**

This advanced laboratory course is designed for students interested in learning how to conduct studies in social psychology. Students will develop skills in critically evaluating current theoretical controversies and methodological paradigms. Special attention is given to theoretical, methodological, and measurement issues such as critical thinking in social psychology, social research design, proposal writing, and research ethics. This course is conducted in a seminar format with the expectation that students will participate actively and on occasion help lead a discussion. Some combination of readings, written assignments, and oral presentation is required. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2019 or PSYC2020.

---

### **PSYC3053. Advanced research in industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)**

This research-based course focuses on specific topics in industrial/organizational psychology that are pertinent to the latest economic development in Hong Kong and in the Greater China Region. Psychometric assessment of various job attitudes, aptitudes, and work-related personality will be one such topic. Students will develop their knowledge and hands-on skills in selected areas covered in the introductory course on Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1004 and PSYC2063.

---

### **PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)**

This course introduces the basic principles of *Neuropsychology*. These include: (1) brain-behavior connection via reviewing (1.1) the neuro-anatomical and neuropsychological mechanisms underlying some cognitive processes and (1.2) how brain functions are dysregulated in some common brain disorders, (2) the research methods employed to understand

brain-behavior relationships. Students will participate in an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and PSYC2022.

---

### **PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)**

This advanced lab course explores findings from both recent and classical research on human perceptual systems. Specific attention will be given to - though not limited to - computational models, psychophysical findings, and neurobiological findings. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and PSYC2051.

---

### **PSYC3064. Advanced developmental Psychology (6 credits)**

This course will introduce you to recent and classical research findings and methods in developmental psychology. It will provide hands-on experience with the research process by having you design and implement your own independent empirical research project. It will focus on key issues facing researchers, such as problems of observing and interpreting, generating testable questions, validity, research design and measurement. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and PSYC2009.

---

### **PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers some of the more recent developments in cognitive psychology. Students will learn about current issues in cognitive psychology by reading research articles. Topics may include consciousness, mental representations of objects/faces/letters, language, memory and decision making, as well as other topics reflecting the interests of the teacher. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2007 or PSYC2051.

---

### **PSYC4007. Independent study in psychology (12 credits)**

(For psychology major) Students will each conduct an independent empirical research project. Regular attendance for research supervision is required. The project write-up should be about 9,000 to 10,000 words (exclusive of tables, bibliographies and appendices). Approval by Departmental Head is required for admissions into this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004 and PSYC2060.

---

### **PSYC4008. Thesis in psychology (12 credits)**

(For psychology major) Students will conduct an independent empirical investigation of a psychological problem. Thesis research will be supervised individually by teaching members of the Department. The thesis should be about 9,000 to 10,000 words (exclusive of tables, bibliographies and appendices). Eligible students will be invited by the Department to apply for admissions into this course. Approval by Departmental Head is required for admissions into this course. Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004 and PSYC2060; and

Co-requisite: PSYC3052 or PSYC3053 or PSYC3054 or PSYC3061 or PSYC3064 or PSYC3068.

---

### **PSYC4068. Research project in cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course comprises an independent research study in an area of cognitive science of the candidates' choice, subject to availability of supervision. Students will read within an area of study, to be agreed with their instructor, and write an extended essay or research proposal.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC2066.

---

## **Department of Social Work and Social Administration**

### **Introductory Courses**

#### **SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration (6 credits)**

This is a basic course in the understanding of social policy in the areas of human resources planning and education, land use and housing, ageing and social security, family and support services, etc.

The two courses, SOWK1001 Introduction to social administration and SOWK1008 Social welfare system and social policy, are mutually exclusive. Students can only complete either one of these two courses within their whole course of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **SOWK1002. Introduction to social work (6 credits)**

The course introduces the basic principles and concepts of social work. Students will obtain an understanding of the philosophy, knowledge and values which form the base for social work practice, social work as a profession, and the role of the social worker in modern society.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I) (6 credits)**

This course introduces a holistic approach to an exploration of normal patterns of development from infancy to old age. Social and familial conditions affecting growth at different stages in the life-cycle will be studied, together with related problems of adaptation and adjustment.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation (6 credits)**

This course reviews theories and concepts around change, leadership, social entrepreneurship and social innovation, creativity and sustainable intervention for bringing about desirable social change in society. Through case studies, interview of practitioners, interactive discussion as well as exposure to knowledge, resources and experience, the students are expected to develop critical appreciation of needs and social problems in relation to the economic and political context in society. Strategies and tactics adopted by social entrepreneurs such as of multi-disciplinary, multi-sectorial civic engagement and creative innovation with appropriate technologies are also critically examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life (6 credits)**

*“No man is an island”* – John Donne. Human beings are social animals. It is our natural behavior to communicate with others. Good communication skills, however, are learned skills and not innate. Good counselling skills are advanced communication techniques. This course is an introduction to the basic communication and counselling skills required for establishing close and helping relationship with others. Students will be introduced to the concepts, skills and self-awareness needed for helpful interviewing and counseling and they can be applied in everyday life. Students are expected to have developed good listening skills, interviewing skills, and creative thinking and problem solving skills at the end of the course. Most importantly, this course aims to assist students to identify their personal areas of strengths and weaknesses in order to allow them to become effective listener and communicator.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies (6 credits)**

This course introduces the foundation concepts and theoretical frameworks that inform social development practice and policy planning. Students will apply case studies from the developed and developing world to investigate diverse models of social intervention and gain understanding about strengths and weaknesses of existing models of social intervention. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**Advanced Courses**

Unless otherwise specified, the examination for each 6-credit course consists of a two-hour written examination paper. The final grading will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in the ratio of 60:40. Teachers concerned will announce at the beginning of each semester the assessment ratio for courses not assessed in the 60:40 examination/coursework ratio.

---

**SOWK2020. Oncology, palliative and hospice care (6 credits)**

Professionals in the field of medical and health settings are expected to be competent in oncology care, palliative and hospice care. The students will learn about the medical, psychological, social,

spiritual and policy aspects of care for cancer patients and persons with terminal illness. Cultural, sociological and traditional approaches to death and dying as well as bereavement will be explored through student projects.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2023. Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course examines the issues of social policy in Hong Kong including privatization of welfare services, the impact of welfare ideology on the state of development in Hong Kong, the issue of equity and equality in welfare provision, community care and service needs of the new arrivals from the mainland. Different theories of welfare will be discussed in relation to local welfare issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2028. Selected topics in social work practice (6 credits)**

This course develops knowledge and skills relevant to the understanding and helping of focused target populations, the selection of which will be based on the special nature of specific client groups, problem areas or service settings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2029. Comparative social administration (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the comparative study of social policy in selected countries, including Mainland China, and examines the provision of social development programmes and social services through the analysis and evaluation of cross-country studies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2034. Youth crime and juvenile justice issues (6 credits)**

This course begins with a critical review of the current state of theory and research on youth problems and delinquency. It will then go on to evaluate existing policies and services directed at youth at risk and juvenile offenders in Hong Kong. Finally it will explore current issues in the field of youth policy and juvenile justice, particularly the overseas development of new programme initiatives. Special emphasis will be given to the relevance of these issues and programmes within the context of Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2037. Human sexuality (6 credits)**

This course tells you everything you always wanted to know about sex but are too afraid to ask: Whom you want to have sex with and why? What would you do in sex and where and when would you do it? Who's on your mind when you think about sex, Leon Lai or Shu Kei? Which is more pleasurable, heterosexual sex or homosexual sex? What is the best sex that you've ever had? Why are having sex with yourself and masturbation acts of revolution? What is pornography – a stimulant to or substitute for sex? Who has a better claim to authority on sex, your family doctor,

your lecturer, the host of a radio phone-in programme on sex or a sex worker in the street?  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2050. Government and politics of social services in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course explores the evolution of social policy in Hong Kong. Alternative approaches to understanding the political, economic, and social dynamics that influence social policy and the implications of these dynamics for social reform will be considered. The formation of political responses to human problems and the impact of such responses on social policy will be discussed with reference to the constitution, the legislature, the Chief Executive and the Executive Council, political parties, pressure groups and the electoral system.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2051. Information and communication technology in human services (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the utilization of information and communication technology in human service settings. The major areas are (a) a review of the trends in the human service agencies' use of information and communication technology; (b) an exploration of software frequently used in the human services; and (c) the ethics of IT usage in the human services.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2053. Evaluation of social services (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to a variety of approaches used to evaluate social services. Students will learn how evaluation techniques can help social service personnel respond to the growing demand for accountability, given that appropriate measures have been taken to collect and analyse data in order to inform decision making. These techniques include: evaluability assessment, designing goals and objectives, choosing an evaluation approach and developing process and outcome measures. Through the course materials, students come to understand the necessity of grounding evaluation approaches within an organization context and the practical issues that arise while implementing an evaluation and using evaluation results.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2062. Special topics in policy study (6 credits)**

This course examines special topics in policy study that reflect current topical and changing needs in the community.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2065. Understanding and working with young people (6 credits)**

This course examines the developmental characteristics and needs of young people and their actualization in the local context. Special focus is put on understanding the contemporary local youth culture and how it reveals the needs of the young people. Major models and concepts in youth work are introduced. Working skills with young people implied from these models and concepts are also introduced. This course is especially suitable for students who intend to join the

fields that work with young people, e.g. social work, teaching, church, entertainment, etc.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2068. Social skills training for human service personnel (6 credits)**

This course offers the theoretical foundation of social skills training. The relevance of social skills training to different areas of human service practice including teamwork and staff training will be discussed. Skills in working with individuals and groups in human service settings will be practiced. This course will be run in form of lectures, demonstrations, class discussion and exercises.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2069. Counselling in health care settings (6 credits)**

Counselling approaches used in health care such as crisis intervention, grief work, cognitive behavioural intervention, support groups, art therapy, psycho-education skills, bereavement counselling, pastoral care and peer counselling will be examined. Students will be provided with experiential training on skills/ techniques in working with patients in hospitals and in the community.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2074. Teachers as counsellors (6 credits)**

As many students might join the teaching profession when they graduate, a purpose of this course is to help course participants understand the developmental characteristics, needs and struggles of students (children and adolescents). Understanding the counselling process and acquiring necessary skills in offering counselling to students are also main focuses of this course. It is expected that through the course, students will be more equipped to be effective helpers in working with students to cope with their school life.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2075. Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)**

The issue of violence in intimate relationships (e.g. domestic violence & violence in dating) is examined through multi-lenses. This course introduces the nature of the different kinds of violence in intimate relationships. The knowledge and skills necessary to understand the dynamics of different kinds of violence are taught. How to assess the violent issues, how to identify appropriate intervention strategies and how to apply the related skills in the working situation are introduced. Particular emphasis is given to the relationship between violence and gender issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2084. Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning (6 credits)**

This course examines various models for the analysis of social policy, as well as basic concepts of social planning, programme design and implementation. Selected social policy issues in Hong Kong and neighbor countries will be critically analysed to understand the subject.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
 SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
 SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
 SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2092. Adventure-Based Counselling: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Adventure-Based Counselling (ABC) is a popular contemporary approach employed to work with people in order to assist their building and/or promoting of a positive self-concept, improve their interpersonal relationship and enhance their problem-solving abilities. Although it is especially popular among working with young people, it can also be used in working with different age groups, families and couples. This course introduces the basic theories and practices of ABC and to provide training in some micro skills in conducting ABC sessions. The quality of an ABC facilitator and the ethical considerations in employing ABC to work with people will also be discussed in this course. The format of the course includes lectures, seminars and ABC workshops for students to participate and experience the process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2098. Working with people with disabilities (6 credits)**

Social workers who work with people with disabilities nowadays should have critical mind and self-reflective attitudes to meet the challenges from the changing field of disabilities. To enhance quality of life of people with disabilities, social workers should have sensitivity to understand situations of individuals with disabilities, and have substantial knowledge of intervening in different levels of environments. Providing students an insightful learning process, this course uses interactive and experiential activities besides traditional one-way lectures. Guests, including friends with intellectual disabilities, friends with physical handicap, their carers and social workers, will be invited to come to the class to share their life experience. This course introduces students the paradigm shift in the field, the evolution of services affecting people with disabilities, and contemporary approaches to provide services to people with disabilities.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2099. Separation, divorce and remarriage (6 credits)**

This course enhances student's understanding of (1) the psychological and social implications of separation, divorce and remarriage; (2) the separation/ divorce/ remarriage decision making process and the considerations involved; (3) legal issues related to separation, divorce and remarriage (grounds for divorce, custody and maintenance, adoption, etc.); (4) the characteristics, dynamics and needs of single parent families and stepfamilies; and (5) intervention approaches relevant to working with divorced and remarried families.

Prerequisite: SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
 PSYC1001. Introduction to Psychology or  
 SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **SOWK2101. Bullying, aggression and resilience (6 credits)**



The issue of bullying and aggression in adolescents and adulthood will be examined through multiple perspectives in this course. An introduction to the prevalence of bullying, current theories and research on the etiology of bullying and aggression in school and workplace will also be discussed. A model of resilience is adopted to rebuild the vocabulary of strengths and the culture of support. Students will be trained to equip risk assessment and management, crisis intervention, counselling skills, group therapy and institutional management in handling bullying. Particular emphasis is given to gender issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2102. Social work in school settings (6 credits)**

The objective of school counselling is to enhance students' whole person development through the provision of remedial, preventive and developmental services in school settings. Phenomenon such as students' suicide, physical and sexual abuse, mental health issues, study problems and school violence pose great challenges to a school counsellor. Adopting the ecological perspective, this course examines the service provision of school guidance and counselling service in Hong Kong, the multiple roles of a school counsellor, the establishment of collaborative relationship with school personnel, the application of practice theories and intervention strategies to individual and school-based family counselling, and the implementation of comprehensive school guidance and counselling programmes. By participating in this course, social work students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to be a competent school counsellor.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2109. Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

Throughout Hong Kong's history it has been a cosmopolitan city where people arrived in the territory from across the globe as colonisers, merchants, soldiers, low paid manual workers, domestic workers, professionals or for family reunion thus starting at different rungs of the social ladder. This gave rise to its multicultural flavour and justifiably becoming 'Asia's world city'. However, not all migrants have benefited from this miraculous growth. Some were pushed to the margins, excluded or made invisible. This course benefits those who work with members of ethnic minority communities, intending to do so or who are curious about racial discrimination and multiculturalism in Hong Kong. Topics discussed include stigma, discrimination and prejudice in the context of history, gender, culture and religion of members of ethnic minority communities, new arrivals or immigrant families. Lectures, group and panel discussions as well as field visits will constitute the learning process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2111. Addictive behaviour (6 credits)**

This course introduces the growing body of knowledge on pathological addictive behaviours. Topics to be covered include drug abuse, alcoholism, computer addiction, and compulsive buying. Various models on the biological, psychological, and social factors related to the course of addiction will be explored. Assessment, treatment, and prevention strategies will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2112. Working with special target populations (6 credits)**

With increasing complexity in the Hong Kong society and the attendant problems faced by various groups of people, there is need to devise specific approaches in alleviating their problems. This course covers selected topics that pertain to the understanding of the characteristics and needs of special populations, introduces relevant working approaches for practitioners and social policy analysts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2113. Special topics in social work practice (6 credits)**

The Hong Kong society and the world at large have unfolded multifarious new social phenomena that pose new challenges to professional social work practice. The social work professional community has to develop new insights in understanding the nature of such problems and challenges, and accordingly devise timely and appropriate intervention to address these issues. This course covers selected topics that meet acute societal needs, or are of current interest or on the cutting edge of knowledge advancement in social work.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2114. Special interventions: theories and techniques (6 credits)**

In dealing with the increasing complexity of problems handled by the social work professionals, the social work community across the globe has developed new theories and techniques in practice. This course covers intervention models that are of current interest in social work. The key concepts and techniques of the models, and their development in terms of empirical base will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2118. Child maltreatment and protection (6 credits)**

Every child has the right to a life free from violence. Unfortunately, millions of children around the world are the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, as well as global neglect. Child maltreatment is a serious public health problem with a negative impact on the victims, their families and societies as a whole. This course examines the prevalence and risk factors of child maltreatment will be examined in the course. Effective prevention and intervention strategies will also be investigated.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2119. Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)**

The nature of interpersonal conflicts and strategies of conflict resolution will be examined in this course. The key elements of negotiation and mediation will be reviewed from different perspectives. Students will learn basic skills of negotiation and mediation. A win-win strategy in the conflict resolution process will be emphasized.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2120. Counselling in business setting (6 credits)**

This course equips students with relevant knowledge and skills of counselling applicable to business settings. Some prominent approaches in helping people to change and/or solve their problems through the use of counselling strategies in the business settings will be introduced. An emphasis is placed on the application of counselling in helping people working in the business environments. Topics include the concepts of employee assistance, the needs of counselling in business settings, the applications of counselling in both profit-making and non-profit-making organizations, boundary and limitations.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2121. Counselling in human resource development and training (6 credits)**

This course introduces concepts and strategies in human resource development and training. Students will be equipped with the techniques in conducting need assessment, team building, effective communication, problem solving and decision making, crisis management and customer relationship management. Experiential approach is emphasized in this course to enhance students' experience and competence in implementing human resource development and training.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2122. Community building and the civil society (6 credits)**

This course examines the various theories related to community building and the development of civil society. It also highlights the development of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Hong Kong and internationally, and their growing importance both in the international and global scene. Relevant public policies including urban development, housing, social welfare, home affairs, sustainable development, etc., that are both relevant and important to community building will also be examined. The role played by the CSOs in various public policies in Hong Kong will also be discussed.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2123. Community partnership and political dynamics (6 credits)**

The provision of human services in the community including family services, children and youth services, rehabilitation services, medical services, elderly services, and community organization involves the development of strategic partners within the community. This course enables the students to develop in-depth understanding of the social, political and administrative structures in both the neighbourhood and district levels, the political and inter-group dynamics in the community, and the theory and practice in promoting community partnership.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2124. Urban development and community engagement (6 credits)**

This course introduces the dynamic interplay of various forces in affecting community development by drawing reference to Hong Kong's rapid urban development and, in particular, urban renewal. Urban changes induced by any stakeholders, ranging from government, commercial sector to local organizations, should engage with all relevant stakeholders. Specific disadvantaged groups marginalized in the urban development process should be empowered to re-enter into the community engagement process. Students will appreciate the background and dynamics of these processes and will therefore be able to analyse or even participate in such processes in the future.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2127. Theory and practice of employment assistance services (6 credits)**

Employment assistance service (EAS) has become one of the major social work interventions in Hong Kong. Billions of resources have been invested in enhancing the work capacity as well as employability of Hong Kong's workforce every year through various departments (e.g. Vocational Training Council, and Employees Retraining Board) and NGOs. A significant portion of social workers are actively engaging in employment related services such as development of a return to work action plan for the CSSA recipients, sharing labour market information and improving job search skills for the trainees of ERB's placement-tile programmes and so on. This course provides basic training in theory and practice to social work students so that they will be equipped to become a competent social worker in providing employment assistance services soon after they are recruited into the employment related departments or agencies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2129. Special topics in social administration (6 credits)**

With rapid social changes, there are new issues arising in social policy and administration, such as new tensions in the interface between the State and civil society, the formulation and implementation of social policies, the management of human, financial, informational and other resources in the social service sector, and the like. This course examines selected emergent issues with the aim of equipping students with relevant knowledge and skillsets to develop appropriate strategies which will help tackle such issues within an ever-changing social context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2130. Social policy and public opinion (6 credits)**

In open societies, public opinion is a key factor affecting the formulation and success of social policies. To some extent it also affects the survival of many non-governmental organizations. This course introduces the basic concepts of public opinion as applied in areas of social and public policies like housing, social security, public health surveillance, public discontent management, corporate social responsibility, sexuality and gender identity, through the study of local applications. Students will also learn how to conduct a simple opinion research, how to interpret findings from sophisticated policy consultation studies, and how to using existing datasets for secondary analysis.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2131. Behavioural economics for social change (6 credits)**

This course will examine the relationship between behavioural economics and social change. Individuals frequently make decisions that systematically depart from the predictions of standard economic models based on a purely rational model. Behavioral economics attempts to integrate the understanding of the psychology of human behavior into economic and policy analysis. The course will review the major themes of behavioral economics and address the implications for social policy and social change in a wide variety of domains, including social security, health care, labour, education and social welfare programmes.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2132. International comparative social policy (6 credits)**

This course examines international social policy in comparative perspective. The aim is to help you understand not only the varying ways in which nations have addressed social issues, but also the political and social forces that have shaped these responses. The course will introduce students to conceptual thinking on a range of social policies –including employment, family policy, child protection and education – drawing on case studies from global regions including North America, Europe, sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. A particular focus is given to understanding the social policy of East Asia through the international comparative lens. It will emphasize alternative program designs and implications to introduce students to the potential and limitations of different alternatives. After completing the module, students will be knowledgeable about a variety of social policies in major regions of the world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2133. Population aging and the controversies (6 credits)**

This course studies the ways in which social and cultural factors enter into the aging process. The practical and immediate effects of aging on society are examined. This course provides a comprehensive description of the dimensions of aging. The goal is to provide a holistic view of aging and to point to the ways in which the personal, social and structural levels of the process interact to shape the daily life of the elderly. With these understandings, the ways to deliver appropriate services to the elderly will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK2134. Social development in modern China (6 credits)**

Over three decades, China has substantially developed in various social areas. The course offers an overview of social development in modern China. The major areas of social development, such as public policy, socio-economic status, urbanization, social welfare, population mobility and migrant workers, family, aging, and health care are presented. The major issues of social development in contemporary China are discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2135. Theory and practice in family counselling (6 credits)**

This course examines family counselling issues relating to intimacy, dependency, parenthood, attachment, power and conflict. The emphasis is on clinical relevance and practice wisdom, guided by the culturally relevant knowledge of the Chinese family system. Students will participate in clinical demonstrations, experiential learning and role plays so as to develop practice competence on assessment, formulation of intervention strategies, and direct intervention in working with the issues arising from personal vulnerabilities, societal pressures, communication impasses, intimacy problems, or inter-generational clashes.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2137. Theories in counselling or  
SOWK3108. Foundation of social work practice II

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2137. Theories in counselling (6 credits)**

An overview of the process of counselling, the major theories/models in counselling and their applications will be introduced in this course. The politics of counselling, the therapeutic relationship and ethical issues will also be examined.

The two courses, SOWK2137 Theories in counselling and PSYC2005 Introduction to counselling and therapeutic psychology, are mutually exclusive. Students can only enroll in either one of these two courses within their whole course of study.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment I or  
SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2138. Foundation skills in counselling (6 credits)**

This course aims to equip students with the basic practice knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for professional practice, via an action-learning approach. In-house skills teaching, role plays, demonstrations and workshops are structured to help students learn and gain mastery of core basic skills in general counselling situations. With active participation under teachers' guidance, students will critically reflect on their counselling skills and be well-equipped for the self-reflection in capstone experience.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2137. Theories in counselling (6 credits)

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK2209. Issues and interventions in mental health settings (6 credits)**

This course enhances the students' basic understanding of mental illness by focusing on alternative definitions of mental illness, cross-cultural considerations, etiology, and intervention strategies. The diversity of roles of the professionals in team work with the mentally ill within the Hong Kong context will also be examined.

Prerequisite: SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I)

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**SOWK2213. Social work practice with selected target groups or in specific settings (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the practice of social work with selected target groups such as children, youth and delinquents, alcoholics and drug addicts, or in specific settings such as school, hospital, youth centres and correctional facilities. For each group or setting, attention will be focused on gaining a comprehensive understanding of the nature of the problems encountered and the role of social work in solving such problems.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3030. Law and social administration (6 credits)**

Family disputes, juvenile delinquency, child abuse, mental disorder, different forms of discrimination, and industrial accidents are some of the common problems faced by the clients of social workers. These issues interface with various aspects of the legal system. This course equips students with the legal analytic skills and knowledge that are relevant to social work practice. It introduces the legal principles, institutions and processes that underpin the Hong Kong legal system. In particular the law relating to children, families and vulnerable adults is illustrated. It examines the nexus relationship between law and social work practice.

Prerequisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1008. Social welfare system and social policy

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3033. Working with youth at risk and juvenile offenders (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the various approaches in working with delinquents and young people experiencing emotional or behavioural problems. To facilitate skills development, emphasis will be placed on experiential learning through the use of simulated exercises, games and role-play. Throughout the course, case and group examples will be drawn from a variety of local practice settings-probation, residential facilities for juvenile offenders, correctional services, outreach and school social work.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3058. Managing people in human services (6 credits)**

This course introduces concepts which will aid in the understanding of organizational behaviour and emphasizes the application of these concepts and skills in managing people in non-profit making organizations. This course is particularly suitable for students who have not taken any management courses before but will be soon required to take up people management responsibility as a team leader or supervisor in the course of their own professional career development. The topics include basic concepts on management functions, purposes of a managerial position and the roles of a manager; and skills in managing subordinates including motivation, morale, leadership, coaching, performance management and disciplinary actions.

---

**SOWK3060. Career skills training (6 credits)**

Success in one's career is one of the most important life tasks for most people. Besides teaching students the necessary knowledge and practice of core career skills, this course also trains students to design and conduct career skills programmes. Through participation in this course, students will be able to master the theories and skills of career planning, understand the relationship between labour market dynamics and job searching, analyse the effect of social, economic and political changes on the job market. Through understanding the social psychology of career aspects, students will become more sensitive to human dynamics in the work setting.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3061. Financial development and management for social service organizations (6 credits)**

This course introduces and examines concepts and practices critical to good financial management of social service organizations. The focus is on preparing students to understand the financial activities and reports essential to management, to mobilize financial resources for the organization and to analyse and use financial information in planning, budgeting and measuring results to promote the organization's mission and goals.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3066. Care management (6 credits)**

Care management is a major practice strategy to promote effective service delivery to diverse target populations. It is based on the notion that human service practitioners often work with people who have multiple needs. The major outcomes of care management are better integration of services provided by a cluster of organizations and community of care. This course covers the role of care management in the human services; the method and functions of care management in both direct and indirect services; and the monitoring and evaluation functions of care management practice.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3087. Counseling for emotional and relational competence (6 credits)**

This course is for all who want to be emotionally and relationally competent in human interaction, be it in the family, at work, with friends, or with neighbors. Training on enhancing capability to be present here and now as well as developing mutually satisfying and meaningful relationships. This course is primarily experiential and practice oriented, integrating the philosophy, science and art of intra and interpersonal competence into real life applications. Recent thinking in philosophy, psychology, group work, and neuroscience will be applied to working with intense emotions, inner blocks and inconsistencies, dilemmas and relational conflicts that haunt human encounters. Through class demonstrations, paired and small group practice, students will come to acquire concepts and skills that will guide them in facing the daily test of human interaction, help them advance their listening skills, increase self-understanding, gain confidence in decision-making, achieve relational transformation, connect with their deeper spiritual self, and affirm a more attuned, grounded, steady, and creative presence.



Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3088. Becoming a change maker: Skills and practice for effective social entrepreneurship and social innovation (6 credits)**

This course aims at nurturing Change Makers for attainment of social objectives and collective community goals through sustainable innovations that are multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral. Students will critically examine the theories of change, framework and practice of Change Maker in society through innovations and social entrepreneurial spirit. The course provides a broader framework for leadership practice to encompass successes and failures in the pursue of social business and organizations in the achievement of social outcomes. Students are encouraged to examine their personal passions and strengths, and to work on a chosen project which provides a safe space for students to experiment on visionary, creative and socially responsible entrepreneurial project.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3089. Integrative counselling methods in action: Theories, practices and research (6 credits)**

It is all too common for people to experience difficulty obtaining counselling that is integrative, culturally competent, and responsive to their complex needs. This course introduces students to the principles and direct practice of integrated counselling methods, based on the integration of Western counselling principles and wisdoms from traditional Eastern philosophies. This course also introduces students to the essential knowledge to effectively address the spectrum of psychological and behavioral problems they will face in their daily life. Students will become knowledgeable of the principles of integrative counselling methods, cross-cultural health issues, and the application of evidence-based complementary and alternative medicine practices across a range of health-related conditions and across different workplace settings. This course also emphasizes the development of integrative counselling skill sets, which are practical, easy-to-learn, and highly transferrable to different people in different settings. Through the use of case vignettes, small group discussions, and experiential learning activities, students will develop essential integrative counselling skills which can be applied in their daily life as ways of stress coping, health enhancement, and to achieve personal growth.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3090. Luxuriating in Google: Human behavior in the technology area (6 credits)**

The past three decades have witnessed GOOGLE generations growing up in a tripartite relationship of human–technology–social institutions including family, school, employment, community, and society. Does technology enhance our happiness? Or does technology control our lives? Some members of these GOOGLE generations are seen as tech-savvy, achievement-oriented, and craving attention, while others are characterized as tech-addicted, dependence-oriented, and self-absorbed. This course critically reviews changes in the life-courses of human behavior in such tripartite environment of human–technology–institution. We will use Google, Instagram, and YouTube to examine how technology is shaping and will likely continue to shape what we do, how we relate, and even how we think via individualized

medicine, big data, game-playing, on-line product selection by “touching,” driverless cars/planes, medical apps, virtual dating, and so-called smart homes. Ultimately students will be able to step into a critical examination of theories that explain and predict optimal human adaptation in technology-woven institutions of power, freedom, conflicts, and politics.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3091. Mental health sciences and society (6 credits)**

This course brings together cutting-edge knowledge and discussions on mental health from diverse but related disciplines of philosophy, psychology, psychiatry, epidemiology, and social and healthcare services administration, both in the unique local context and in the international mental health scene. Students will be introduced to the critical examination of theories and practices in mental health with real-world examples. Throughout the course, conceptual explorations will be illustrated by case studies, including two complex syndromes affecting youth (i.e., psychotic disorders) and elderly (i.e., dementia), as well as other common mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety and developmental disorders (e.g., autism spectrum disorder) where appropriate. Using the conventional disease/medical model as a starting point, students will be guided to understand mental health in the broader context of biological, psychological, social and cultural factors that operate in combination to affect mental health outcomes at individual and population levels.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3092. Migration and mobility (6 credits)**

Population mobility bridges the local and global across the 21st century world. This course covers topics of specifically relevant to the HK context such as cross-border migration of new arrivals from China, topics relevant to HK and the wider world such as the integration of ethnic minority migrants, and different types of migrant populations, including low-wage/skill, high-wage/professionals, voluntary (labor) and forced (refugee, humanitarian, trafficking) migration. Theories of globalization, modernization, multiculturalism and social inclusion will be examined to enable students to appreciate and apply relevant concepts to their future practice in various positions locally and globally.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3093. Play therapy (6 credits)**

This course introduces the class to the use of play therapy in working with children, adolescents and families. The students will be presented with the essential elements and principles of play therapy, including historical development, theoretical modalities, basic techniques and applications.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2107. Foundation of social work practice I or  
SOWK2137. Theories in counselling

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3094. Project development and management (6 credits)**

This course addresses the project management lifecycle beginning with the identification of social need. Project management is the process and activity of planning, organizing, motivating, and controlling resources, procedures and protocols to achieve specific goals in scientific or daily problems. Students will gain skills in identification and translation of social needs into specific goals and objectives, work plan, budget planning, implementation schedule, monitoring mechanisms, quality control, and impact/outcome analysis. The sensitivity of programs to gender and ethnic inequalities and concerns of disadvantaged groups will be examined. Case studies and practical applications will form an integral part of the course material.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3095. Social development and service learning (6 credits)**

Service learning is a key component of many global education systems and has been developing rapidly within Asia in recent decades. This course combines lectures on service learning, community development and empowerment practice with the application of these concepts to a field experience with local and/or global community partners. Students will gain valuable skills in needs assessment of diverse socially disadvantaged groups within Hong Kong and/or international contexts. Students will gain experience in self-reflection on personal and social motives for engaging in service learning activities. The course includes guest lectures with community leaders in service learning.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1011. Introduction to social entrepreneurship and social innovation or  
SOWK1013. Introduction to social policy and development studies

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3096. Solution-focused therapy (6 credits)**

“Judging by its popularity, solution-focused therapy may be the treatment for our times. Now one of the most widely used psychotherapy approaches in the world (Trepper, Dolan, McCollum, & Nelson, 2006) ... Its pragmatic focus on coping, rather than curing, has made it applicable to almost any problem seen by therapist.” (Nichols, & Schwartz, 2008, p.368) Solution-focused therapy advocates that the core role of a therapist is to help client to construct their solution instead of figure out what are the causes of the problem. Solution-focused therapists argue that it isn't necessary to know what causes problems in order to make things better. Their emphasis is on what works, not what doesn't work. Therefore, it is the solution talk, not problem talk, is the direction of solution focused therapists. The course will introduce the theoretical background, basic assumptions, core working principles, and hall mark techniques of the Solution-focused therapy.

Assessment: 100% coursework

---

**SOWK3097. Trauma, resilience, and growth (6 credits)**

From natural disaster to human inflicted violence - landslides, tsunami, earthquake, terrorist attacks, traffic accidents, witness a murder, assaults by a total stranger, domestic violence by a love one, bullying by a classmate... the list goes on and on. Increasingly, traumatic events and the resulting stress have become part of the reality of life. While some of us may have experienced a traumatic event personally, many more witnessed or heard about these events happening around them. Recognizing the impact of traumatic event on a person and understanding the person's post-traumatic reactions is important for both human service professionals and lay persons. This course provides an overview of the study of traumatic stress. Topics covered in this course include the historical development and major theoretical perspectives of trauma research, symptoms and presentation of trauma survivors, post-traumatic stress and growth, treatments available and their research evidence.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3106. Use of creative arts in social work practice (6 credits)**

This course introduces the theories of creative arts as healing and illustrates the use of creative arts in local social work contexts, including individual or group counseling setting and community development setting. It is a practical course with hands-on experience to the use of creative arts in expression, communication and healing. Creative arts are action-oriented and process-focused. The development of skills and use of creative arts for self-exploration go simultaneously in this course. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with the use of arts for creative exploration and self-understanding. Different arts media will be introduced, including visual art, craft work, music, sounds, dramatic exercises, spontaneous movement and writing. The students will synthesize their personal experience with conceptual learning through experiential activities, live demonstration, listening exercise, case studies, video analysis and sharing. This course is not a formal creative arts therapy training, but offers opportunities for exploring the resources of creative arts in social work context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3115. Frontiers in interventions around death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)**

There are more than a hundred deaths each day in Hong Kong, but death is a taboo for most for us. The unfamiliarity towards death induces a sense of anxiety when this topic is brought up to us. Death-related problem is one of the commonest issues that clients bring to counselling, but is often rated as the most uncomfortable scenario by beginning counsellors. This course is designed for students with an interest in understanding death, dying and bereavement. It offers a close examination on the challenges individuals, families and service providers face surrounding life-threatening illness and death. Theories and intervention strategies on end-of-life and bereavement care are reviewed. This course increases students' competence in working with clients facing death, dying, loss and trauma.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOWK3116. A self-reflective journey (6 credits)**

In the counselling process, the self of counsellor is one of the most important tools that facilitate changes in clients. This human dimension of one's values, needs, and personality trait will greatly influence the helping process. As a first step to explore what counselling is, this course invites the students to start the journey from within themselves. Through reflective exercises, discussions, and assigned readings, the students will go through a self-discovery journey, visiting issues of body, gender, love, work, and death. This journey will enhance the students' understanding of their values and philosophy of life, and extend to know more about their relationship with the world. The course will adopt an active-learning and experiential approach. The three courses, SOWK1007 Knowing ourselves, knowing our world, SOWK1009 The reflective practitioner and SOWK3116 A self-reflective journey, are mutually exclusive. Students can only enrol in one of these three courses within their whole course of study.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2138. Foundation skills in counselling

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3129. Research method in social work and social administration I (6 credits)**

This course provides students with the basic background in quantitative and qualitative research design and data analysis. The logic of interpretation of findings and scientific explanation, the merits and limitations of quantitative and qualitative approaches to the study of social phenomena, and research ethics will also be examined.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2084. Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning or  
SOWK2122. Community building and the civil society

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3130. Research method in social work and social administration II (6 credits)**

This course is a tutorial-based reading course in areas of social work and social administration research and interest. It includes presentations and group discussion of research and social issues related to social work and social administration. Students will conduct comprehensive review of literature within an area of study and write a systematic review or meta-analysis essay. The objective of this course is to enable students to apply and interpret various methods in data analysis, as well as to enable them to critically analyze research reports and make intelligent use of research findings in social work and social administration.

Pre-requisite: SOWK3129. Research method in social work and social administration I

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3131. Encounter with embodiment: Therapeutic use of drama in social work settings (6 credits)**

This course gives students an opportunity to understand the therapeutic use of drama (TUD) in social work setting in both micro and macro contexts. This incorporates the philosophies and 27 approaches of certain key psychologists, psychotherapists, and applied drama practitioners such as Humanistic Approach, Existentialism Psychotherapy, Individual and Group Psychotherapy, Developmental Transformations Drama Therapy, Sesame Drama & Movement Therapy, Psychodrama Psychotherapy, Jungian Analytical Psychology, Playback Theatre and Forum Theatre. Through lectures and experiential activities, students can have basic understanding of the concepts and theories, as well as reflections on how the approaches have worked for them and the application in social work setting. Although the course does not aim at training students to be

therapists or specialists in any of the approaches, students can understand different therapeutic frames and elements so to integrate into their social work professions. It also provides students a picture for further academic development in these areas.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK3307. Working with families (6 credits)**

This course examines the concept of a 'family perspective' and assist students in gaining an understanding of the major approaches to working with families. Theories on family, methods of assessment, and a range of strategies and techniques for effective intervention with the family as well as their applicability to the local context will also be considered.

Prerequisite: SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I) or  
SOCI2021. Marriage and the family

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK4008. Capstone project in social administration (6 credits)**

The capstone project is a six credit compulsory course for major students to be offered in the penultimate or final year of study. The objectives are for students to a) review their work over the course of the social work and social administration major; b) reflect and analyse their work in relation to a number of social development concepts; c) articulate their learning experiences through a group project or paper, and a presentation to instructors and peers. This capstone project will specifically addresses the project management lifecycle including identification of social need to translation of social needs into specific goals and objectives, work plan, budget planning, implementation schedule, monitoring mechanisms, quality control, and impact/outcome analysis.

Pre-requisite: SOWK3129. Research method in social work and social administration

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK4009. Capstone project in counselling (6 credits)**

The capstone project is a six credit compulsory course for major students to be offered in the penultimate or final year of study. The objectives are for students a) to review their work over the course of the counselling major; b) to reflect and analyse their work in relation to a number of key communication and counseling concepts; and c) to articulate their learning experiences through a group project or paper, or other creative output and a presentation to instructors and peers.

Pre-requisite: SOWK3116. A self-reflective journey

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOWK4055. Management in human service organizations (6 credits)**

This course enables students to understand the recent business-oriented reforms in human service organizations. Human service organizations provide welfare, education and medical services to their users. The dynamics of quality improvements, strategic planning, monitoring and control, management information system, performance appraisal, supervision, stress management, teamwork, financial management and change are included.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

## **Department of Sociology**

### **Introductory Courses**

Prerequisites requirements may be specified in some courses. In exceptional cases these may be waived by the Head of the Department.

Not all the courses listed will necessarily be offered every year.

The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified.

#### **SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of sociological enquiry and the basic concepts used in sociological analysis. After some reference to the influence of inheritance and environment on human social behaviour, the course will focus on key concepts used in the analysis of cultures, social structures, social processes and social change. Topics include social class, education, media, culture and crime. The relationship between research, concepts and contemporary theory will be explored at an introductory level.

---

#### **SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)**

This course will explore, through cross-cultural comparison, key social and cultural issues, such as marriage and the family, caste and class, ethnicity and identity, language and culture, state formation, economic values, gender and religion. The course will draw on studies of the peoples and cultures of Asia. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **Advanced Course**

#### **Semesters III to VIII**

#### **SOCI2001. A history of social theory (6 credits)**

This is an introduction to the formation of classical sociology, in which we explore some signature ideas of the discipline in relation to the historical circumstances from which they emerged. The central focus will be on understanding how the ideal of a science of society has become imperative within the context of modern social experience. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

#### **SOCI2002. Class, wealth and poverty: inequality and injustice in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course deals with the phenomenon of social inequality. It will cover topics such as theoretical explanations of this phenomenon; the methodological problems involved; different types of social stratification including caste, class, gender and ethnicity; the consequences of

stratification on life chances and life styles; and social mobility. A comparative approach will be adopted.

---

**SOCI2003. Contemporary Chinese society (6 credits)**

This course attempts to analyse the social system in the People's Republic of China. Sociological explanations of the Chinese Communist Revolution, the process of social reintegration through ideology and organization, the socialist path to modernization, and continuities and discontinuities with social patterns in the past are discussed.

---

**SOCI2006. Critical issues in media studies (6 credits)**

This course addresses the issues related to the construction of reality by the media. In recent years, the media have been subject to various criticisms, including negative reporting, tabloid journalism, and ideological biases. These criticisms will be reviewed with particular focus on the extent to which the media can provide an objective and fair representation of reality. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2008. Culture and society (6 credits)**

This course will introduce some of the central concerns of cultural and social anthropology (culture and human nature; the components of culture; the diversity of human cultures and societies; culture and social behaviour; social change) through a study of the theoretical concerns and empirical fieldwork of selected social and cultural anthropologists of the twentieth century. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2009. Economic development and social change (6 credits)**

This course will be concerned with the dynamics and consequences of economic transformation in the developing world, with a particular focus on industrialization in East Asia. We will begin with a brief survey of some of the general theoretical frameworks that have been used to explain development in East Asia, as elsewhere, before moving on to examine particular societies and thematic issues in the light of these general frameworks. The societies to which most attention will be paid will be Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. The thematic issues to be addressed will include the transformative significance of historical conjunctures, free markets, foreign investment, economic cultures and state policy.

---

**SOCI2010. Education and teaching (6 credits)**

Formal educational institutions in society will be examined, using the major concepts and theories of sociology. Emphasis is placed on the relationship between education and other important social institutions such as the family, the polity, and the economy. The questions of equality of educational opportunity and the potential role of education in fostering social change will also be analysed. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.



---

**SOCI2011. Gender and crime (6 credits)**

Women who engage in illegal activities typically acquire a 'double deviant status'; they are perceived to be violating legal codes as well as gender proscriptions. Women offenders are not simply the shoplifter or the cocaine addict, but the 'fallen woman', the 'wicked temptress', and the 'immoral mother'. Such views about women offenders have been the basis for their differential treatment under the law and in punishment systems. The purpose of this course is to critically assess these assumptions and the gendered ways of social control policies.

The course is organized into three main sections. The first part of the course will examine the 'facts' on female offenders and theoretical explanations for female delinquency and crime. The next section focuses on women as crime victims, particularly in sexual assaults and domestic violence. The last section of the course traces and compares the development of social control policies (as expressed in the law, the criminal justice system, and corrections) aimed specifically at women offenders in several countries. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2012. Gender and society (6 credits)**

This course will focus on the social construction of gender and the patterns of inequality that result from this process. Themes to be examined are: biology and destiny; social definitions of masculinity and femininity; sex role socialization; consequences of gender differentiation; theoretical perspectives. In addition, the contribution that social theory has to make to the question of the origins of sex inequalities will also be examined. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2013. Gender in Chinese societies (6 credits)**

This course focuses on gender issues in Chinese societies: how women and men live out their lives in history and at present in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and other overseas Chinese communities. It also compares gender issues in Chinese and Western societies, as well as in different Chinese communities.

---

**SOCI2015. Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)**

This course examines the major research landmarks in the study of popular culture in modern societies. The theoretical and methodological issues raised will serve as a guide for a series of workshops and field projects which investigate the history, nature and social significance of popular culture in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2016. Hong Kong society (6 credits)**

An appraisal of the sociological research that has been done and the further research that needs to be done on Hong Kong society, covering such topics as: demographic structures and processes; kinship, marriage and family; the sociology of economic life; the polity; social stratification;

systems of knowledge and belief; the mass media. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2017. Japanese economic institutions (6 credits)**

This course will focus on Japanese economic organizations and the ways they are influenced by Japanese culture and political and social structures. The topics covered include: development of the large corporation, management structures and styles, education and the employment system, the organization of work on the shop-floor, trade unions and industrial conflict, characteristics of small firms, inter-enterprise cooperation and competition, the role of industry associations, business and the state, Japanese enterprises abroad.

---

**SOCI2018. Japanese society (6 credits)**

This course focuses on some salient features of Japanese culture and society. The topics covered in the course are: the nature of Japanese society, culture and national character, family and kinship, social stratification, rural and urban communities, and social problems. Emphasis is also given to comparing Japan with other countries, especially China.

---

**SOCI2019. Life styles and modern culture (6 credits)**

This course explores the dynamics of modern society by looking at the manifold styles and life in modern culture. It examines questions on what underlies styles, how choices in life are made, and how cultural spaces are closed and created. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2021. Marriage and the family (6 credits)**

Marriage and the family are viewed comparatively, using historical and cross-cultural data. Included are the impact of industrialization and urbanization on family life, different forms of family organization and the societal conditions under which they occur, theories of mate selection, recent changes in dating and premarital sexual involvement, parenthood, and marital adjustment. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI3024. Modern social theory (6 credits)**

This course will be a critical exposition of many of the major trends in modern social theory, linking contemporary movements with older philosophical traditions in an attempt to trace continuities and ruptures in social thought. The course will be concerned with the contributions of behaviourists and social exchange theorists, the efforts of contemporary interactionists and French structuralists, and the post-structuralist enterprise.

---

**SOCI2027. Politics and society (6 credits)**

This course offers a sociological discussion of political power, political institutions, political

processes, and political behaviour.

---

**SOCI3030. Quantitative sociological analysis (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to basic concepts and techniques in formulating and testing sociological hypotheses. Real data sets, with special reference to Chinese societies, are analysed.

---

**SOCI3033. Research project (6 credits)**

Students taking 48 or more credits on senior level courses in Sociology may undertake a small research project under supervision by a lecturer. Their proposed project must obtain the approval of a potential supervisor prior to enrolment. The students must submit a research essay/report of at least 6000 words prior to May of the academic year of study. Assessment: 100% research essay/report.

---

**SOCI2035. Selected topics in social and cultural anthropology (6 credits)**

This course will examine the development of theory and empirical research in one or more selected topics in social and cultural anthropology. The topics to be covered will vary from year to year and will be announced before the beginning of the academic year. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2036. Social anthropology of Hong Kong and Guangdong (6 credits)**

This course examines the transformation of culture in Hong Kong and compares it with developments in neighbouring Guangdong. It looks at changes in family organization, ritual and popular culture and problems of urban anthropology in Hong Kong.

---

**SOCI2038. Social control (6 credits)**

A discussion of the problems of social order and control; basic techniques of social control; control in interpersonal relationship and small groups; the role of ideology and mass media in social control; the uses of conflict in establishing order.

---

**SOCI2041. Social problems (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to a number of contemporary social problems, social issues, and social concerns. Special emphasis is given to the nature of social problems in Hong Kong. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI2042. Social research methods (6 credits)**

The aims of this course are to introduce the basic principles and procedures which form the

foundation of social research, to review the main types of research designs and methods of data collection used in social research, and to provide a set of criteria for analysing and evaluating the products of social research. The types of research covered will include participant observation, experimental design, survey methods and documentary analysis. Ethical and political issues in social research will also be discussed. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **SOCI2044. Sociology of economic life (6 credits)**

The Sociology of Economic Life, which is also called Economic Sociology, is concerned with the relations between the economic and non-economic aspects of social life. It challenges the basic assumptions that economic action is universally rational on which neo-classical economics is based. This course begins with an introduction of the key ideas of “new economic sociology.” It followed by some selected topics that apply the new economic sociology perspective to understand a wide range of economic activities, including culture and market, social network and economic transactions, the role of the state, money and consumption, investment and firm, corporation, labor management, organizational culture, and the cultural impacts of economic globalization. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

#### **SOCI2046. Sociology of law (6 credits)**

This course examines the interplay between law and society. It has a strong cross-cultural input, combining sociological, anthropological and historical materials. Students will be introduced to sociological theories of law, and to the theory and practice of law in socialist and liberal societies as well as pre-industrial and developing societies. The course therefore covers the customary, common law and codified legal systems and will examine the connection between legal institutions and social values. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

#### **SOCI2047. Sociology of punishment (6 credits)**

This course deals with sociological and criminological approaches to punishment. It will examine the historical, cultural, and social context of punishment, and look at the changing forms of punishment in society. Students will be introduced to current debates on penal policy and corrections within different criminal justice systems. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

#### **SOCI2049. The body and society (6 credits)**

This course examines the ways in which the human body embodies the key ideas and cultural assumptions in society. It also looks at how major political, social and personal problems are expressed through the body.

---

#### **SOCI2052. Traditional Chinese society (6 credits)**

This course deals with the sociological significance and methodology of the study of the Chinese society. The theme is social integration - how social order was attained in the late imperial period,

and how that order disintegrated after the Western impact. Important institutions such as family and kinship, social stratification and mobility, rural and urban organizations, central and local government, religion and other belief systems will be discussed. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2053. Youth and youth culture (6 credits)**

This course explores issues such as the discovery of childhood and adolescence, the development and expressions of youth culture in different societies including the United States, Britain, Japan, Canada, as well as youth cultures in Hong Kong.

---

**SOCI2054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)**

In Hong Kong, Triads are known to have been long involved in the illegal businesses of drugs, gambling, prostitution, loan sharking, debt collecting and smuggling. Triads are also notorious for organized extortion from legitimate businesses, such as the entertainment industry, street hawking, wholesale markets and minibuses services, interior decoration business, the trading of properties, and the film industry. Since Hong Kong Triads are believed to be increasingly active in drug trafficking, human smuggling, and economic organized crime such as credit card fraud, counterfeiting, and money laundering, Western police foresee that Hong Kong Triads are replacing the Italian Mafia as the most powerful criminal organization in the world in the next century. Are these contentions correct? In order to understand what Triads exactly do in different kinds of organized crime, this course is specifically designed to analyse the role of Hong Kong Triads in legal, illegal, and international markets. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI2055. A cultural study of tourism and tourists (6 credits)**

The phenomenal growth of tourism in contemporary societies is of major social and cultural significance. This course introduces students to a cultural study of tourism viewed as a complex social phenomenon connected with social and cultural dynamics. Special attention will be given to Asian and Chinese experiences, not only as guest societies, but also host societies. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2056. Criminal justice: policy and practice (6 credits)**

This course primarily aims to familiarize students with the idea that criminal justice can be viewed as a system consisting of interaction between three main components: police, courts, and corrections. Criminal investigation, arrest, prosecution, trial, conviction, sentence, incarceration, and community supervision will be examined. Attention will also be given to the formation and implementation of criminal justice policy. Students will be afforded the opportunity to explore a number of criminal justice systems found in other parts of the world but special attention will be devoted to the Hong Kong criminal justice system. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI2060. Fraud, corruption and computer crime (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of crimes committed by white-collar people such as businessmen, government officials, politicians, technicians and professionals. It examines in depth three major types of white-collar crimes: fraud, corruption and computer crime. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI2061. Life styles and religious practices (6 credits)**

In response to the highly stressful modern urban environment, there has been a movement towards alternative life style practices that are closely connected to various forms of religious practices. This course explores the reasons for the attractions of these religious practices, how they influence urban life styles, and why individuals and groups are attracted to the movements. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2063. Multicultural societies and modern identities (6 credits)**

This course explores how individuals and groups, through the use of traditional and modern cultural idioms, attempt to negotiate, adapt and create their own identities in modern multicultural societies. Topics to be covered may include multiculturalism and the modern nation state; local, ethnic and global identities; religion and violence; popular culture and modern values; food and identity and intercultural romance, marriage and family. Videos and films will be used as teaching materials.

---

**SOCI2064. Globalization and the information society: myths, facts and emerging patterns (6 credits)**

This course will draw upon the most recent social research and undertake a critical examination of the ideas of globalization and information society. Three main areas will be covered: the nature of the knowledge-based informational economy, the ideas of risk, trust, and other economic-sociological aspects of e-business, and the transformations of work and non-work relationships as well as our experiences of time and space in the information age. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2066. The Asian economic miracles and beyond (6 credits)**

This course will examine the Asian economic miracles from the economic, social, and political angles. First, it will analyze the making of the economic miracles by exploring the roles of government policies, family and related social institutions, as well as the global political-economic forces. The relationships between these factors and the 1997 financial crisis will also be examined. Second, the course will look at the impacts of economic development on alleviating income and other forms of social-cultural inequality. Finally, it will address the complex interactions between economic development and political democratization. The course will focus on Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan, but it will bring in the experiences of the Mainland China, Japan and other Southeast Asian countries where appropriate.

---

**SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)**

The media plays an extremely influential role in the public's conceptions of crime and order. This course is designed to look at the different ways in which the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course is divided into two main sections. The first half of the course examines representations of crime in different media forms and theoretical explanations for why crime is portrayed in particular ways. The second half of the course focuses on the representation of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2068. Religious movements: peace, nationalism and terrorism (6 credits)**

This course examines the emergence of various religious movements in the world today and the psychology of the people involved in these religious movements. It will examine why some religious movements expound on world peace while others advocate religious nationalism and religious terrorism. It will answer the question: "why are the religious fanatics willing to sacrifice themselves and others in the name of religion", "are we living in a religiously dangerous world today?" Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

**SOCI3069. Perspectives on crime and deviance (6 credits)**

This course looks at the different theoretical traditions in understanding the causes of crime and responses to crime and deviance. It also outlines the distinctiveness of a sociological approach to crime and crime control. Topics include the conventional everyday crimes (such as property crimes and illegal drug use) as well as the under-reported but equally harmful activities (such as white collar and state crimes). Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Prerequisite: SOCI2071/SOCI0071 Criminology.

---

**SOCI2070. Chinese identities and global networks (6 credits)**

This course explores the changing experiences and identities of Chinese people in a globalizing world. It will examine the formation of Chinese communities and varieties of Chinese identities and representations in various parts of the world. Topics to be discussed include the use of social capital and guanxi networks in their social, economic and political pursuits, their desire to plant new cultural roots in their adopted countries, their sentiments towards their native home villages and ancestral villages in Mainland China, and transnational socio-economic linkages and transnational businesses.

This course also aims to enhance students' understanding of the formation of Chinese identities and representations in a globalizing world as well as the significance of transnational linkages across socio-political boundaries. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2071. Criminology (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to criminology as both an applied and academic discipline. The subject matter of criminology is diverse involving research drawn from many disciplines including medicine, law and sociology. The course begins by focusing on the state of crime in

Hong Kong and introduces students to the operations, functions and nature of the various criminal justice agencies involved in the control of crime. The course also provides a general review of the major theoretical approaches and issues in understanding and measuring crime. The course also provides an applied component which emphasizes the principles and practice of investigative interviewing - a core skill in the criminal justice system. Related topics covered to enhance the context of investigative interviewing include victimology, the investigative process and the role of forensic sciences (corroboration), and the legal rights of the suspect. Students will be required to visit courts, prisoner treatment programmes and participate in interviewing exercises and practicums. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

### **SOCI2072. Policy, governance and training in cultural tourism (6 credits)**

This course attempts to provide students with an overview of policy and governance in tourism. It will also provide them with hands-on experience in policy formulation - regarding the creation and interpretation of the issues that are connected to the understanding of cultural tourism. Issues such as ethnicity, the environment, culture and heritage will be studied. Students will be taught to interpret and analyse how tourist gazes are constructed for different types of tourism using the project-based method. Students will also be exposed to social and economic as well as ethical considerations of these creations. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

---

### **SOCI2073. Global migration (6 credits)**

This course will explore the institutions, processes, and dynamics that surround global migration, attending in particular to situations in East and Southeast Asia. The course has four major parts: (1) the making of the transnational space, (2) ethnic relations, citizenship, and political identity, (3) work and employment, and (4) transformations in gender and familial relationships. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOCI2074. Disappearing cultures and vanishing heritages (6 credits)**

In some tribal societies, whole tribal cultures have disappeared while in urban cities, heritages are slowing vanishing. The objective of this course is to examine the impact of globalization and development on the culture and heritages of different societies. It will study how social transformation and development in the name of modern development lead to the erosion of cultural practices, lifestyles and heritages in Asia and beyond. It will examine the relevance and irrelevance of these cultures and heritages in modern societies and ways of preserving such cultural traditions. It will also explore how, why and what cultural elements and heritages are systematically reproduced for local consumption and for the tourist trade. The key themes to be explored include the disappearing ethnic and tribal cultures, socio-religious practices and environmental heritages of the dominant cultures in Asia and beyond. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOCI2075. Hong Kong: community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)**

This course equips students with the capacity to understand and participate in Hong Kong cultural policy analysis and planning in the local condition and the global context. This will be



achieved through (1) critical classroom lessons, where students will learn to review and analyze the government's past policy practices, as well as cross-cultural comparative cases of other cities in the world; (2) in-the-field action research, where students will do a critically-framed fieldwork project outside the classroom, and (3) through innovative and interactive modes of knowledge enhancement and propagation through the internet. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2076. Globalization and crime (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the study of the relationship between globalization and crime. It is divided into three main sections. The first part of the course introduces students to the major perspectives of globalization and how crime fits into these discussions. The second part of the course examines recent efforts to understand the dialectical process of crime and globalization using examples like the global drug economy, corruption and human trafficking. The third section will contend with the obstacles and strategies for addressing crime in the global context. This course provides students with a better understanding of the ways in which crime and globalization interact. It is also designed to facilitate students' critical thinking about how crime operates in the local and transnational context and the difficulties in dealing with crime at these two levels. Assessment: 50% examination and 50% coursework.

---

**SOCI2077. Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)**

China has been undergoing dramatic and rapid social change as it becomes embedded in the global economy, and as such, has been the focus of a great deal of media attention. This course investigates the multi-faceted ways in which China's social, economic, political, and legal cultures are portrayed in different forms of contemporary media. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2078. Drug control in comparative perspective (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the historical and contemporary trends in illicit drug use around the world and public policy efforts to control it. The course is divided into three main sections. The first part of the course introduces students to the rise of opiate use in China and elsewhere, the Opium Wars, and the resulting international efforts to control opiate consumption and production. The second part of the course examines contemporary international and local efforts to deal with current drug use including heroin, cocaine and amphetamine type stimulants. The third section will be devoted to examining efforts to shift from a crime oriented perspective of illicit drug use to that of a public health approach focusing on ways to educate and reduce the harms associated with illicit drug use. Examples are drawn from a number of countries including Hong Kong, China, Thailand, the U.S., the United Kingdom, Australia and the Netherlands. This course provides students with a better understanding of the construction of social control policies in relation to the consumption of "pleasurable substances." It is designed to facilitate students' critical thinking about such questions as: Who is making these policies? Why are these policies being made? Who are these policies directed at? What impact have these policies had? Assessment: 50% examination and 50% coursework.

---

**SOCI2079. Researching media and culture (6 credits)**

This course explores various theories and methods for researching the cultural dimensions of media practices. Drawing upon works from cultural sociology and cultural studies, students will learn to think critically about media content, cultural production, consumption, and the political and economic contexts in which these occur. Topics will include: the corporate control of media sources; the branding and place promotion of cities as cultural centers; the globalization and localization of media processes; and the social impact of popular new media technologies (e.g., Internet-based information and entertainment sources, cellular phones, and online networking sites). These themes will enable us to situate the historic development and expansion of media forces and their contribution to changing conceptions of social status, selfhood, the body, and social connectivity. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2080. Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)**

This course introduces key thinkers, traditions and current debates in media and cultural studies and explores the central role of media and culture in contemporary social life. It enables students to understand media and culture as institution, practice, representation, production and consumption, and creativity. Topics include: a) the rise of the mass entertainment industries and their influence on social behaviour; b) the role of consumption in maintaining and creating new social identities and status hierarchy; c) the search for fantasies in advertisement; d) new regimes of body management and their impact on gender relations; e) the reclaiming of gender, sexual and cultural identities; and f) the various emerging forms of cultural politics and local activism. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2081. Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)**

This course aims at investigating the significant changes that appear to be happening in the private sphere of intimacy in late-modern times in the globe, paying particular attention to Hong Kong city and other Asian countries. It introduces key concepts and theoretical approaches of gender and sexuality studies and touches upon topics such as homosexuality, female sexuality, pornography, commercial sex, BDSM, etc. It attempts to rethink the newly emerging sexual meanings that seem to harbour the rights and responsibilities of being sexual, pursuing pleasures, possessing bodies, claiming visibility and creating new relationships. At the end of the course, students are expected to develop critical thinking, a respect for diversity and the ability to envision new possibilities of intimacy. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI3082. Media and Cultural Studies internship (12 credits) (only available for those who major in Media and Cultural Studies)**

The Media and Cultural Studies internship is comprised of two components. The first is a series of workshops, aiming at equipping students with knowledge and essential skills for working in the media and cultural studies field through interacting with prominent practitioners from the professional field. The second is work placements in different media and cultural organizations. Students will work closely with their field supervisors and academic tutors in identifying issues and developing projects related to media and cultural studies. Assessment: 100% coursework  
Eligibility: Students taking or having taken SOCI3083/SOCI0083. Media and Cultural Studies research project (12 credits) are not allowed to take this course.

---

**SOCI3083. Media and Cultural Studies research project (12 credits) (only available for those who major in Media and Cultural Studies)**

This is a year-long independent research project for final year candidates who major in the Media and Cultural Studies programme. There will be regular research meetings which are designed to allow students to formulate and carry out a project on a topic of their own choice related to the Media and Cultural Studies. Under the guidance of an academic supervisor, students have to submit a final research report and give a multi-media presentation before completing the course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisite: FOSS1002. Appreciating social research or a similar research methodology course

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken SOCI3082/SOCI0082. Media and Cultural Studies internship (12 credits) are not allowed to take this course.

---

**SOCI2084 Local cultures and globalizing capitalisms (6 credits)**

How does culture matter in the global diffusion of capitalism? How is Japanese capitalism different from American capitalism? How is marketization in post-socialist China different from marketization in post-socialist Russia? Through a number of anthropological and sociological empirical studies, this course examines the relations between culture and globalization of market economy in various respects. It exposes students to different parts of the world and their receptions to the globalizing economic and cultural forces. The course explores these questions through a perusal of different topics, such as work and labor in multi-national corporations, the McDonaldisation of social and cultural sphere of life, and the global discourse of media and fashion. Interesting case studies from different localities will be used substantially for classroom discussion. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2085. Understanding media (6 credits)**

This course provides an analysis of the nature, development and impact of communication media in society. It introduces students to the approaches for understanding the role of mass media in society. It also examines a number of substantive issues concerning the actual functioning of modern communication media. Topics covered will include: changing technologies of communication, the ideology, ownership and control of modern media, ideals and practices of journalism, the uniqueness of different media forms like television, cinema, print and the internet, the political impact of media, the social impact of new communication technologies, the regulation of and access to broadcasting, and the globalization of communication media. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI2086. Art worlds in transnational perspective (6 credits)**

What makes a place an arts “destination”? How does the significance of artistic practice converge or diverge across different contexts? What is the impact of policy-making and market forces on the formation of art worlds? This course draws on examples from key cities in the industrialized and developing world, including New York, London, Beijing, and Hong Kong, to highlight the cultural and social contingent nature of artistic production, consumption, and interpretation. Topics include boundaries and distinctions within art worlds; the transformation

of art as a commodity product in the global economy; and the interaction between urban renewal policies and art in post-industrial settings. Through field research assignments, students will conduct assignments that take advantage of Hong Kong's multiple arts institutions and communities to gain a grounded understanding of the increasingly complex relationships between art, power, money, and society in a globally connected world. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOCI2087. Urban studies and world cities (6 credits)**

In our age of globalization, world cities have become increasingly important as financial centers and cultural marketplaces in the world economy. This course examines how urban life is changing as cities redevelop to regulate global flows of capital, culture, and people. For whom is world city development designed? What are the fault lines of social inequality and difference that are taking shape? What new cultural forms are emerging, and why has culture become an important business for world cities? A number of cities will be considered, including New York, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Paris, and Sao Paulo. Assessment: 100% coursework

---

### **SOCI2088. Science, technology and administration (6 credits)**

Scientific, technical and administrative knowledge are among the most influential and authoritative forms of knowledge in our contemporary world. What is the basis of their authority? How have these ways of knowing achieved their present power and prestige? From where have they come? And to where might they be taking us? This course provides you with a theoretical basis for asking these critical questions. You will survey some of the ways that science has developed through its relation to projects of technical and administrative control, targeting such things as human sexuality, human consciousness, productivity and waste. As we work through these case studies, you will develop your skills in using a set of theoretical tools for performing critical social and cultural analysis of policy decisions. The final project of the course will ask you to use these skills to make an informed prediction about the likely consequences of one possible policy response to a contemporary ecological problem, like climate change. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

### **SOCI2089. Japanese consumer society and popular culture (6 credits)**

Consumer goods and popular culture make up an important part of social life and identity in contemporary Japan. At the same time, cultural products such as manga (comics), anime (animation), television dramas, popular music and fashion are an increasingly vital element of twenty-first century global culture, making Japan a "cultural superpower" on the world stage. In this course we will critically examine the development of Japanese consumer society and popular culture and explore the ways in which they contribute to the meaning and organization of social life and identity. In addition, we will consider the ways in which Japanese popular culture is marketed and consumed in Asian countries. There are three overarching themes to the course: 1) the historical development of Japan's consumer society and popular culture in relation to modernization and globalization; 2) the role of institutions, ideologies, and human action in the production and consumption of popular culture; and 3) critical analysis of consumer society and

popular culture in terms of power, inequality, and resistance. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2090. World city Tokyo (6 credits)**

Tokyo has been the center of social, cultural, and political life in Japan throughout the modern period. More recently, it has also become a world center of finance and popular culture. This course examines the dynamics of urban life and cultural production in Tokyo. Drawing on urban theory in the social sciences and cultural studies, as well as on Japanese ethnography and cultural history, it addresses the following themes: 1) the development of Tokyo as a “modern city” and more recently a “world city”; 2) Tokyo as a node for Japanese interaction with global trends; 3) the cultural meanings and politics of space and place; 4) social class and identity; 5) subcultures, culture industries, and the marketing of “Cool Japan”; 6) the culture and politics of the financial industry. No prior knowledge of Japan is required. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2091. Sociology of culture (6 credits)**

This course surveys the field of sociology of culture for an introductory purpose. It covers the core theoretical debates in cultural sociology and introduces some empirical investigations of the role of culture in various social lives, including in the structure of social inequalities. Students will learn the basic concepts of culture from a sociological perspective and develop a critical mind to analyze how culture works in our everyday lives and how culture is related to society in general. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2092. Sociology of space (6 credits)**

This course explores the relationship between space and society. It covers the core theoretical work about space in sociological thinking, and introduces some empirical investigations of the role of space in various aspects of social lives. Students will learn the basic facts and theories about how space matters in society, and develop critical skills to analyze how space has been transformed by the new technologies. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI2093. Medicine in modern China (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to medicine in modern China. It gives a broad historical perspective, while at the same time focusing on the social, cultural and political contexts of both the transmission of Western medicine and the transformation of traditional Chinese medicine in modern China. It covers the period from early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the contemporary. Students will learn the background, development, and debates of both Western medicine and traditional Chinese medicine, as well as develop a critical mind to analyze the social context of medical practices. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI3094. Youth crime in the global city (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to key criminological and sociological concepts in the study of youth crime. It locates the study of youth crime within the context of current debates surrounding

urban sociology and globalisation. It draws on case-studies of youth crime in different world cities to illuminate theoretical debates, and analyses the differing forms and trajectories of youth crime in world cities, against the backdrop of social change in these environments. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

---

**SOCI4095. Capstone project (6 credits)**

The capstone project is a six credit compulsory course for major students to be offered in the final year of study. The objectives are for students to a) review their work over the course of the major b) reflect and analyse their work in relation to a number of key sociological concepts c) articulate their learning experience through an individual or group project or paper, or other creative output and a presentation to peers and to the community at large. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI4096. Capstone project in Criminology (6 credits)**

The capstone project is a six credit compulsory course for major students to be offered in the final year of study. The objectives are for students to a) review their work over the course of the major b) reflect and analyse their work in relation to a number of key concepts in criminology c) communicate their conceptually informed views among professionals and community members. Assessment: 100% coursework.

---

**SOCI4098. Capstone project in Media and Cultural studies (6 credits)**

The capstone project is a six credit compulsory course for major students to be offered in the final year of study. The objectives are for students to a) review their work over the course of the major b) reflect and analyse their work in relation to a number of key concepts in media and cultural studies c) communicate their conceptually informed views among professionals and community members. Assessment: 100% coursework.