

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Summer Institute: Asia as the Global Future
(June 24 – July 22, 2012)

Course Description and Assessment Methods

“In the same way that commentators refer to the 1900s as the “American century”, the 21st century may be seen as the time when Asia, led by China and India, comes into its own”.

- National Intelligence Council. *Mapping the Global Future*. Washington, 2005

FOSS4005 Asia as the global future (12 credits)

I. Course Aims

Asia as the Global Future provides a platform for students to engage in emerging Asia through participating in a four-week intensive study programme in different parts of Asia. This summer institute 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.

II. Learning Outcomes

Upon completing the course, students should have:

- understood major issues related to social, cultural, economic and political developments in selected Asian societies in the context of reemerging Asia;
- examined major critical challenges that these societies are confronting;
- appreciated the complexity of social, cultural, economic and political developments in selected Asian societies; and
- developed a better understanding of Asian Studies.

III. Course Description

Asia as the Global Future aims at enhancing students’ awareness of the importance of Asia in the globalizing world according to the key themes

- Asia in the World
- Economic Transformation and the Challenges of Growth
- Politics and Human Well-being
- Society, Culture and Heritage
- Case Study: Burma / Myanmar

Students will spend four weeks in different parts of Asia: Hong Kong, Macau, the Mainland China and South Korea. By the end of these four weeks students will have gained a unique perspective on Asia through interacting with academics, government officials, community leaders, cultural practitioners and local people in selected Asian societies.

IV. Course Details

The first two weeks will be an intensive introduction to Asian Studies in Hong Kong. HKU faculty, as well as members of other universities, the diplomatic community, leading business people and cultural practitioners, will be offering lectures on Northeast, Southeast, South Asian and West Asian affairs, as well as on issues that cut across these regions – such as human rights, popular culture, and business and economic development – according to the four themes mentioned above. Over the first weekend students will go to Macau for a very different experience of a post-colonial Chinese city. These lectures will be bolstered by a series of fieldtrips designed to extend the work covered in the lectures as well as give students a chance to enjoy the rich social and cultural environment that exists in Hong Kong.

In the third week students will fly to Beijing. During this time a series of lectures on China's domestic development and its international challenges will be delivered, along with a series of field trips of various academic and cultural interests. In the final week students will fly to Seoul, where they will stay at Korea University. Students will have a series of lectures on South Korea's history, its political and economic modernisation and its social and cultural transformation. Students will also engage in a series of field trips to understand the culture and history as well as the socio-economic and political developments of this country.

V. Assessment Components and Criteria

Continuous assessment 100%: In-class Quizzes (40%), Final Project (40%), Attendance and Active Participation (20%)

In-class Quizzes (40%)

Students are required to sit in-class quizzes on the last day of second week and fourth week of the Summer Institute. Question paper consists of factual knowledge and a short essay.

Final Project (40%)

Students are required to produce a final project on a selected topic in **4000 words** one month after the end of the programme. The final project will compare and contrast one chosen topic from the four major themes in at least two Asian societies (possible topics

will be given before the commencement of the programme). The final project will thus be a more advanced level analysis of Asia as the Global Future. Students are expected to integrate lecture notes with assigned readings and to conduct small-scale research and ground the work with their fieldtrips and other experiences in the four weeks of the programme.

Students are expected to ground academic work in concrete experiences through research. A good project will not only show students' competence in analyzing social issues in a comprehensive manner, making use of lectures, assigned readings, tutorial discussions and field trip observations; but also will demonstrate the ability to integrate academic study with research and personal experiences.

Attendance and Active Participation (20%)

Students will be continuously assessed on their attendance. Attendance is mandatory at all lectures and discussion groups. Some field visits are optional but prior approval should be sought. Attendance also includes active participation during lectures and site visits (asking questions/raising issues).

Due Date (Hong Kong Time)

Final Project: August 21, 2012 a month after the end of the programme

The Final Project shall be submitted in softcopy to Mentors and cc to sumins@hku.hk

A Summary of Assessments

Assessment	Percentage	Due Date (Hong Kong time)
In-class Quizzes	40%	July 5, 2012 July 20, 2012
Final Project (4000 words)	40%	August 21, 2012 (A month after the end of the programme)
Attendance and Active Participation	20%	
Total	100%	

Plagiarism and Citation Guideline

At The University of Hong Kong, plagiarism is a disciplinary offence. Any student who commits the offence is liable to disciplinary action and the plagiarised work will receive a fail grade. Regulation 5 of the University's Regulations Governing Conduct and Examination provides that:

“A candidate shall not engage in plagiarism nor employ nor seek to employ any other unfair means at an examination or in any other form of work submitted for assessment as part of a University examination. Plagiarism is defined as unacknowledged use, as one's own, of work of another person, whether or not such work has been published.”

Plagiarism will result in an automatic “fail” grade being awarded for that particular item and, if serious enough, may result in the student failing the course. For this reason all students are urged to read “What is Plagiarism?” via www.hku.hk/student/plagiarism, and refer to the citation guideline via www3.hku.hk/philodep/ugrad/citation.php.

VI. Certificate / Transcript

Certificate of Attendance

The Certificate will be awarded to students who have completed the programme with satisfactory performance.

Transcript

The results of the programme will be announced in early October 2012, and will be followed by an official transcript. For any other personal requests, please contact the Academic Services Enquiry Office at UG05, Knowles Building to fill in an application form or download it from the link at <http://www0.hku.hk/regform/>. Normal processing time required upon receipt of application form for transcript and payment is 10 working days.

March 8, 2012