The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Code</th>
<th>FH2C01P</th>
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</table>
| Subject Title | A Glimpse of Contemporary Livelihood Issues in China
                  當代中國民生掠影 |
| Credit Value  | 3                        |
| Level         | 2                        |
| Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion | Nil. |

**Objectives**

At once the world’s oldest surviving civilization, and a rising global leader, China as a nation is confronting unprecedented opportunities and challenges in the course of human development. A decent knowledge of contemporary China is therefore important for the general good of the globalizing world of today. The subject guides students to this knowledge by exploring key issues affecting the livelihood of the Chinese people. Topics to be discussed include China’s international relations, recent history and government, environmental issues, gender issues, ethnic issues, urbanization and rural reforms, religion and popular culture among others. Latest scholarships will be drawn up to reveal the facts and contemplate their implication.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:

A: have a basic understanding of key issues confronting China and its people in the unfolding of inter-cultural and international dialogues;

B. identify challenges, conflicts, problems, benefits and drawbacks brought by the rapid development in the livelihood of the Chinese people;

C. Inquire critically the socio-political context of Chinese modernization;

D. distinguish the methodologies and perspectives in the disciplines of history, sociology, cultural studies, gender studies, religion, philanthropy etc.;

E. develop library and web-based research skills relevant to Chinese studies;
F. meet the Chinese reading and writing requirement.

**Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus**

(Please note that the topics reconceived and the sequence of presentation rearranged.)

1. The History of Contemporary China (1949-present)
2. Ethnic minorities and the disputes
3. Urban-Rural contrasts
4. Environment
5. Public health and social security
6. Education
7. Religion
8. Popular Culture
9. Gender and Age
10. The New Rich

**Teaching/Learning Methodology**

The course comprises two 50-minute lectures and one 50-minute tutorial each week. Pre-class readings will be supplemented by the use of pictorials, audio and video materials in the lectures. Students are also required to watch media items for tutorial discussion. At the beginning of the semester students will be assigned a thematic issue to be studied for oral presentations in the tutorials. Students will submit a written report based on their oral presentations, which will be developed into a term paper with research elements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Specific assessment methods/tasks</th>
<th>% weighting</th>
<th>Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Mid-term quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Written Tutorial Report</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Oral Tutorial Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Term Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

1. The mid-term quiz, including multiple choice questions and simple answer questions, will help gauge students’ mastering of the key concepts and major issues in contemporary China covered in the
2. The written tutorial report and oral presentation can inform the teacher the progress students have made in their general grasp of the subject and their skill in writing and oral communication.

3. The term paper can help assess the students’ overall in-depth understanding of the subject.

**Student Study Effort Expected**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>26 Hrs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>12 Hrs.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Other student study effort:

| Pre-class reading                  | 48 Hrs.  |
| Report and essay writing           | 36 Hrs.  |

Total student study effort: 122 Hrs.

**Reading List and References**

必讀書目:

宋耕編著，《全球化與中國性》。香港：香港大學出版社，c2006, p.51-279 。(CR)

選讀書目:

戴錦華，《涉渡之舟：新時期中國女性寫作與女性文化》。北京：北京大學出版社，2007。(CR)

林蘊暉，《中華人民共和國史》。香港: 香港中文大學當代中國文化研究中心，2008。(CR)

郭建寧，《當代中國的文化選擇》，北京：北京大學出版社，2004。(CR)

劉頌，《中國城鄉義務教育差異問題研究》。北京：北京教育出版社，2008。(CR)

阮新邦, 羅沛霖, [楊善華]主編，《當代中國農村研究》。River Edge, NJ : 八方文化企業公司, 2000。(CR)

武斌，韓春艷，《中國流行文化三十年（1978-2008）》。北京：九州出版社，2009。(CR)

楊強，《搖滾照耀靈魂：中國音樂亞文化之聲》。北京：北京燕山出版社，2012。(CR)

余振貴，《中國歷代政權與伊斯蘭教》。銀川：寧夏人民出版社，
| 2012 | (CR) |