

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS234																						
Subject Title	Introduction to Social Services in Hong Kong																						
Credit Value	3																						
Level	2																						
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil																						
Assessment Methods	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 45%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Seminar</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">20%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Project</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Written Assignment</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">20%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Quiz</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Seminar		20%	--	2. Project		--	30%	3. Written Assignment		20%	--	4. Quiz		30%	--
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Objectives	<p>The subject aims to enable the students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acquire basic concepts in examining issues in social services and social policies. 2. acquire a basic understanding of the social service systems in Hong Kong. 3. identify some key factors affecting social service development in Hong Kong and the global community. 																						
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. identify social needs, social policy and institutions which exist to meet them in the local context; b. understand how contemporary social issues and problems have emerged and how social policies have responded; and c. investigate social questions, issues and problems; and seek data out systematically using appropriate methods for clarifying these issues and problems. 																						
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social problems and social needs; • Social welfare, social service and social policy; • Related values and concepts such as altruism, egalitarianism, universalism, welfare state. 																						

	<p>2. Social services in Hong Kong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 major social services in Hong Kong: social welfare, education, housing, medical and health, and labour services; • Key factors affecting the development such as demographics, economic, social, political and cultural contexts. <p>3. Social Welfare Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of development; key players; categories and types of services; and current issues. <p>4. Education Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of development; key players; categories and types of services; and current issues. <p>5. Housing Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of development; key players; categories and types of services; and current issues. <p>6. Medical & Health Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of development; key players; categories and types of services; and current issues. <p>7. Labour Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of development; key players; categories and types of services; and current issues. <p>8. Trends of development of social services</p>																							
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology</p>	<p>In addition to conventional lectures in which basic concepts, facts, history of development of the subject matters will be delivered, students are also required to have active involvement in small groups and self learning activities which may include seminar discussion, organization visits, article reading and project work.</p> <p>Students in small groups will be requested to conduct a project studying one type of local social service of their choice. Student have to gain comprehensive understanding on the service through various channels and information sources that may include policy reviews, studying newspaper cuttings, arranging organization visits, interviewing field players and service users, etc. The aim is to widen their understanding of the respective social services as well as to gain a first-hand experience of conducting a small-scale social research. Students are required to report their project findings in class and demonstrate their analytical ability.</p>																							
<p>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="3">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Seminar</td> <td>20%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Project</td> <td>30%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Written Assignment</td> <td>20%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)			a	b	c	1. Seminar	20%	✓	✓	✓	2. Project	30%	✓	✓	✓	3. Written Assignment	20%	✓	✓	✓
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	4. Quiz	30%	✓	✓	
	Total	100 %			
	<p>Students forming project groups are required to do library research and collect firsthand data of contemporary social problems and needs, existing policy and service provisions of a selected social service area in Hong Kong. They have to present their findings and comments in the seminars. It is thus expected that learning outcomes (a) to (c) will be achieved through the learning activities.</p> <p>Each student is also requested to write a commentary on other groups' presentations. That means s/he will not just listen and receive the presentation materials passively; rather they have to play an active and critical role in understanding the social issues discussed in the class. Learning outcomes (b) and (c) are expected to be achieved.</p> <p>At the end of the semester, a quiz will be held and students need to review what have been covered in the class. The quiz result is expected to reflect students' understanding of the basic concepts, as well as their learning of contemporary social issues and problems in Hong Kong.</p>				
Student Study Effort Required	Class contact:				
	▪ Lectures		18 Hrs.		
	▪ Seminars		12 Hrs.		
	Other student study effort:				
	▪ Reading		18 Hrs.		
	▪ Written Assignment		24 Hrs.		
	▪ Project work		40 Hrs.		
	▪ Organized Visit		4 Hrs.		
	Total student study effort		116 Hrs.		
Medium of Instruction	English supplemented with Chinese				
Medium of Assessment	English				
Reading List and References	<p><u>Essential</u></p> <p>Kendall, D. (2010). <i>Social problems in a diverse society</i>. (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.</p> <p>Reisman, D. (2001). <i>Richard Titmuss: Welfare and society</i>. (2nd ed.). Basingstoke: Palgrave.</p> <p>Spicker, P. (2008). <i>Social policy: Themes and approaches</i>. (2nd ed.). Bristol: Policy Press.</p>				

Supplementary

甘炳光等 (編) (1996)。香港房屋政策論評。香港：三聯書店(香港)有限公司。

李健正等 (編) (1999)。新社會政策。香港：中文大學出版社。

周永新 (編著) (1995)。社會福利的觀念和制度。香港：中華書局。

陳錦華、李偉儀、文正華 (編) (2001)。執言：社會政策評論文集。香港：香港理工大學應用社會科學系社會政策研究中心。

鄒崇銘 (2006)。能醫不自醫？：香港醫療改革的難產與生機。香港：星克爾出版有限公司。

Government Websites

Department of Health of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.dh.gov.hk>)

Education Bureau of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.edb.gov.hk>)

Hong Kong Hospital Authority (<http://www.ha.org.hk>)

Hong Kong Housing Authority and Housing Department
(<http://www.housingauthority.gov.hk/>)

Labour Department of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.labour.gov.hk>)

Labour and Welfare Bureau of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.lwb.gov.hk>)

Social Welfare Department of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.swd.gov.hk>)

Transport and Housing Bureau of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.thb.gov.hk>)