

## Subject Description Form

<b>Subject Code</b>	APSS333																				
<b>Subject Title</b>	Social Policy and Social Service																				
<b>Credit Value</b>	3																				
<b>Level</b>	3																				
<b>Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion</b>	Nil																				
<b>Minimum Pass Grade</b>	D																				
<b>Assessment Methods</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. In –class Quizzes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Short Essays</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Term Paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Group Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0% Examination</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. In –class Quizzes	25%	0%	2. Short Essays	15%	0%	3. Term Paper	30%	0%	4. Group Presentation	0%	30%	0% Examination		
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<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand key concepts of social policy;</li> <li>2. Study the characteristics and changes of different social services in Hong Kong and investigate the factors leading to the changes;</li> <li>3. Develop analytical ability in analyzing Hong Kong’s social services.</li> </ol>																				

<p><b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b></p>	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Have knowledge of human need and social needs in local context and of social policies and welfare institutions which exist to meet them;</li> <li>b. Understand how contemporary social problems have emerged and of social policy responses. This includes an understanding of how welfare institutions operate within broader “welfare system” to meet human and social needs;</li> <li>c. Seek out and use statistical and other data derived from social surveys and other systematic collections and research publications;</li> <li>d. Investigate social questions, issues and problems;</li> <li>e. Distinguish between normative and empirical questions;</li> <li>f. Communicate ideas and arguments effectively to others.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basic concepts of social policy Basic concepts and their relationship- social needs, social problems, resources and redistribution, equality, equity, social justice, universality and selectivity, social right and welfare, and etc.</li> <li>2. Introducing key perspectives of social policy For instances, the Fabian welfare state, neo-conservatism, neo-marxism, and the Third Way.</li> <li>3. Social services in Hong Kong Characteristics and the changes of the following social services: education, medical and health, housing, labour, environment protection, cultural and transportation.</li> <li>4. Major issues in social service in Hong Kong For instances, privatization, governmental subvention policy reform, equal opportunity and sustainable development.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methodology</b></p>	<p>In addition to conventional lectures delivered by the subject lecturer, teaching and learning activities which involve active students’ participation would also be used in the class. These activities may include class exercise, case studies, discussion in small group and report back to the class, reading and discussion of appropriate articles and newspaper cuttings on current social services, role play etc. Audio-visual materials would also be shown to facilitate learning and to increase the students’ understanding on specific topics.</p> <p>Seminars would be used to facilitate students to make use of the knowledge and concepts learnt in the lectures and serves as opportunities for integration and internalization. Students would be organized into small groups and they are expected to work together for a presentation to the seminar group. Relevant topics and references would be given to the students at the beginning of the semester so as to facilitate preparation of seminar presentation. Consultation sessions provided by the subject lecturer and seminar instructor would be arranged whenever necessary.</p>

**Assessment Methods  
in Alignment with  
Intended Learning  
Outcomes**

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)					
		a	b	c	d	e	f
1. In –class Quizzes	25%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Short Essays	15%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Term Paper	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Group Presentation	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total	100 %						

**In-class Quizzes:**

Students are required to attend two in-class quizzes. They are expected to read and review all assigned readings before attending the quizzes and are expected to have basic understanding on basic concepts, definitions, competing views as well as major concerns related to those topics covered by lectures. Short-essay questions will be asked to assess how well they accomplish this. Systematic reading in pace with the subject development could be fostered also.

**Short Essays:**

Two in-class short-essay writings will be required to assess students’ awareness on current social policy and social service related issues. The arrangement is to arouse students’ readiness to relate classroom learning to societal concerns. Students could also demonstrate how well they could apply theories and concepts they learnt in class to real life issues. On the other hand, the exercise could test students’ ability to react to social policy and social service and to put forward discussions and arguments in a brief and sensible manner.

**Term Paper:**

Each student is required to write a term paper individually. Topics will be suggested in light of subject content, objectives as well as relevance to local context. Students are expected to demonstrate their ability to apply concepts and ideas learnt from class to concrete social policy and social service issues. Logical and systematic presentation of facts and arguments, conclusion convincingly drawn, and the ability to communicate ideas effectively will be some major criteria for assessment.

**Group Presentation:**

Students in groups should present in any one seminar session on a topic selected from the list of seminar topics. It is designed to help students clarify, integrate and consolidate concepts taught in class; to facilitate understanding and application of concepts learned; to promote interaction among students in smaller learning groups and to create a platform for focused discussion and exchange of ideas; and to provide a platform for students to demonstrate their understanding on the subject matter and to analyze policy theories and issues critically.

<b>Student Study Effort Required</b>	Class contact:	
	▪ Lectures	22 Hrs.
	▪ Seminar	20 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Reading and Researching – Self Study	60 Hrs.
	▪ Preparing Assignments	30 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	132 Hrs.
<b>Medium of Instruction</b>	English supplemented with Chinese	
<b>Medium of Assessment</b>	BA students will be assessed in English. HD students will be allowed a choice but encouraged to use English	
<b>Reading List and References</b>	<p><b>Recommended Textbook</b></p> <p>Alock, P., Erskine, A. &amp; May, M.(ed.) (1998). <i>The student's companion to social policy</i>. Blackwell Publishers.</p> <p>Blakemore, K. (2003). <i>Social policy: An introduction</i>. Open University Press.</p> <p>李健正等編。(1998)。新社會政策。中文大學出版社。</p> <p><b>References</b></p> <p>Bill, J. (2008), <i>Welfare and well-being: Social value in public policy</i>. Bistol: Policy Press.</p> <p>何安達，許冬華編。(2000)。香港 2000 社會趨勢與政策分析。網上頻道有限公司。</p> <p>陳錦華，王志錚編。(2001)。香港社會政策 2000。三聯書店。</p> <p>陳錦華，王志錚編。(2004)。香港社會政策評論。中文大學出版社。</p> <p>陳錦華，李偉儀，文正華。(2001)。執言：政策評論文集。香港理工大學應用社會科學系社會政策研究中心。</p> <p>顏文雄，趙維生，黃威廉合編。(1987)。香港社會政策的迴響。集賢社。</p>	