

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS5766											
Subject Title	Parenting, Intimacy and Families: Policy and Practice											
Credit Value	3											
Level	5											
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil											
Assessment Methods	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Term paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Term paper	60%	0%	2. Presentation	40%	0%
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Objectives	<p>This subject is to introduce a micro-macro orientation to family-centred social work practice and to inform the students with sociological understanding of the Chinese family in Hong Kong. This also aims at developing a community-based perspective for understanding the dynamics and problems of the Chinese family in Hong Kong, and also for building up intervention frameworks.</p> <p>This subject starts from the general discussion about the current functioning of the family system in Hong Kong, and moves on to the study of the relationships between parenting and child development, with special focus on the impacts of family policy in this respect. Family policies in foreign countries such as the Sure Start and Every Child Matters in England would be cited as the reference for international comparison. There would be two key strands of study. The first is the practices and policies relating to parenting. Practical solutions to marital dissolution would also be discussed with special attention to the changing nature of love and intimacy. Another is also related to the discussion about the possibility and feasibility of policies advocating equal parenting and family mediation. Domestic violence is another issue examined in this course. This subject would be concluded with the discussion on the policy and practice pertinent to the issues arising from working parents, gender inequality within and without families, and single-parent families.</p>											
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. show the main features of a family-oriented social policy; b. present their own theoretical justification for the practical framework they would employ in family-related services; c. show their understanding of the current debates and discussions about family-related social policies; d. apply knowledge of the current theories and updated research findings relating to parenting and intimacy; e. critically show their views on the moral dilemmas and ethical conflicts relating to motherhood, fatherhood and parenting and be able to affirm their own value stance for effective intervention; f. give their comments on the desirability of using a community-based perspective for the analyses of the Hong Kong family policies. 											

**Subject Synopsis/
Indicative Syllabus**

1. What is Social Policy? Parenting in question.
The nature of social policy; perspectives on social policy; relationships between family policy and social policy; the possible impacts of family policy on families
2. From Welfare to Work and the Role of Care and Care Work
The changing nature of modern societies; the relationship between families and work; parenting and child development; practical solutions to the child development of pre-school children; policies related to pre-school children in Hong Kong
3. Tools for Conceptualizing the goals of Family Policy
Learning from the British experience: Sure Start, Every Child Matters; the tools for evaluating family policy; Introduction to Family Impact Assessment; Family Council in Hong Kong
4. Parenting and Family Policy
Introduction to Parenting; Parenting style and child development; the sociology of children; how to evaluate policies and practical methods on parental education
5. Individualization, Risk Society and Social Work Practice
The concept of individualization ; the concept of mobile sociology; the concept of liquid social work; how risk society affects the practice and policies on family intervention;
6. Intimacy and the Modern World and Family Break up
The changing concept of love and intimacy; family dissolution and the history of family intervention into divorce; practical solutions to marital dissolution; the possibility and feasibility of equal parenting; the law reform on equal parenting in Hong Kong
7. Domestic Violence: Battering wives
Evaluation of arrest; is shelter good to women leaving abusive relationships; does violence matter?
8. Domestic Violence: Child Abuse I
The implications of liquid social work to the practice in dealing with child abuse; the organizational capacity of social work profession in dealing with child abuse; child abuse, knowledge and risk society
9. Domestic Violence: Child Abuse II
Learning from the British experience; the changing role of law and social work profession; the possible practical solutions to do rehabilitation for men abusers
10. Parenting, New Fatherhood and Motherhood
The concept of new fatherhood, social movements advocating new fatherhood, the difference between new fatherhood and motherhood
11. Working couples, unemployment, welfare dependency and social services
Policies on working parents and working couples; social services and families; evaluating the practice and policies on family and work
12. Reframing the Policy-Family Relationship

Teaching/Learning Methodology	<p>The approach will be composed of lectures and seminars. Lectures focus on the introduction of the general concerns of the related topics revolving around family policies, and seminars are for helping students to understand the most effective ways of learning how to apply theoretical framework to the study of social and family policies.</p>																																												
Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	<table border="1" data-bbox="440 432 1463 808"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="6">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> <th>d</th> <th>e</th> <th>f</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.Term paper</td> <td>60%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.Presentation</td> <td>40%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td colspan="6"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seminar presentation (40%) Students will present their examination on one issues arising from family. Students are expected to examine the nature of the issues, possible solutions through social work intervention and family policies. They should draw evidence from the case of Hong Kong or elsewhere in order to show their ability in analyzing social situation, social polices and intervention skills. They are also expected to give suggestions as to how they would handle these situations if you were the social workers, policy makers and therapists. The emphasis will be on students' awareness of the practical dilemmas in these family issues. 2. Term Paper (60%) Students will choose a topic in the aspect of family issues and write a policy analysis and practice evaluation research paper of approximately 3,000 words. The emphasis will be on students' understanding of the topic and ability to apply analytical ability to the study of family practice and family in Hong Kong. The students should observe APA format in their paper writing. 							Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c	d	e	f	1.Term paper	60%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2.Presentation	40%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Total	100 %						
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Medium of Instruction	English
Medium of Assessment	English
Reading List and References	<p>References</p> <p>Cheal, Davil. (1991). <i>Family and the state of theory</i>. Toronto: Toronto University Press.</p> <p>Delamont, Sara. (2003). <i>Feminist sociology</i>. London: Sage Publications.</p> <p>Dobash, R. E., Dobash, R. P., Cavanagh, K. & Lewis, R. (2000). <i>Changing violent men</i>. Thousand Oaks, London and New Delhi: Sage Publications, Inc.</p> <p>Edwards, Susan S.M. (1989). <i>Policing 'domestic' violence: women, the law, and the state</i>. London; Newbury Park: Sage Publications.</p> <p>Gauthier, A. H. (1996). <i>The state and the family: A comparative analysis of family policies in industrialized countries</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Giddens, Anthony. (1992). <i>The transformation of intimacy: sexuality, love and eroticism in modern societies</i>. Stanford: Stanford University Press.</p> <p>Hanmer, Jalna and Catherine Itzin. (2000). <i>Home Truths About Domestic Violence: Feminist influences on policy and practice – A Reader</i>. London and New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Harwin, Nicola, Hague, Gill and Malos, Ellen (eds.) (1999). <i>The multi-agency approach to domestic violence</i>. London: Whiting and Birch.</p> <p>Jamieson, Lynn. (1998). <i>Intimacy: personal relationships in modern societies</i>. Cambridge: Polity Press.</p> <p>Jordan, B., Redley, M. and James, Simon. (1994). <i>Putting the family first</i>. London: UCL Press.</p> <p>Millar, Jane and Rowlingson, Karen. (2001). <i>Lone parents, employment and social policy: cross-national comparisons</i>. Bristol: The Policy Press.</p> <p>O'Neill, John. (1994). <i>The missing child in liberal theory</i>. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.</p> <p>Silva, Elizabeth B. and Carol Smart. (1999). <i>The New Family?</i> London: Sage.</p> <p>Smart, Carol and Neale, Bren. (1999). <i>Family fragments</i>. Cambridge: Polity Press.</p> <p>Wright, Caroline and Jagger, Gill. (1999). <i>Changing family values</i>. London and New York: Routledge.</p>