

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

Please read the notes at the end of the table carefully before completing the form.

Subject Code	APSS 360														
Subject Title	Social Problems and Social Issues in Contemporary China														
Credit Value	3														
Level	3														
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil														
Assessment Methods	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 40%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Seminar Presentation and Report</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Participation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Term Paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned; ▪ The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and ▪ Student must pass all components if he/she is to pass the subject. 			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Seminar Presentation and Report	10%	30 %	2. Participation	10 %	--	3. Term Paper	50%	--
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Objectives	To enable students to acquire sociological perspectives and concepts for understanding social issues and problems in the Chinese society and to develop a good understanding of the major social problems and social issues confronting contemporary Chinese society.														
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) acquire sociological perspectives and frameworks for understanding and analyzing social issues and problems b) enrich understanding of the causes, conditions and consequences of major social problems confronting contemporary China. c) apply perspectives and frameworks acquired in this subject to analyze social problems in the contemporary Chinese society and beyond. 														

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<p>1) Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perspectives on studying social problems - Identifying major issues in contemporary society <p>2) Critical Reflection on selected major social issues in contemporary China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The era of great migration - Rural development and sustainability - Educational inequalities and social reproduction - Housing issues and social exclusion - Challenges in an aging society - Gender and employment - ‘Platform’ economy - The grass-root empowerment <p>3) Concluding reflections on social development in China</p>																																														
Teaching/Learning Methodology	<p>In addition to the delivery of lectures, documentaries, films, and book talks on related topics will be used as supplementary teaching / learning materials. Reference to current affairs is encouraged in supporting discussions of topics related to the curriculum. For seminars, students will be assessed by the way they prepare and present a chosen seminar topic (such as accuracy of grasping core themes of reference materials, logic of argument, clarity of presentation), as well as their submission of a group report. In addition, students will be individually assessed by assignments in the form of a term paper and participation in the seminars.</p>																																														
Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	<table border="1" data-bbox="416 1249 1436 1825"> <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></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Term Paper</td> <td>50%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Seminar Presentation and Report (15% Presentation + 25% Group report)</td> <td>40%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Participation</td> <td>10%</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>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c	d	e		1. Term Paper	50%	✓	✓	✓				2. Seminar Presentation and Report (15% Presentation + 25% Group report)	40%	✓	✓	✓				3. Participation	10%	✓	✓	✓				Total	100%						
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	<p>Term Paper:</p> <p>The term paper will enable students to integrate major concepts, theories and paradigms learnt in the subject to indicate the level of knowledge and competence gained in the field of study. It should be 3,000-3,500 words in length.</p> <p>Seminar Presentation and Report:</p> <p>Students have to present in groups their critical views on selected topics on social problems and social issues in contemporary China. They are expected to use current empirical materials to illustrate how they can apply theories and concepts learned in lectures to generate critical discussions. This exercise will show how well they have learned and how effective they are as communicators.</p> <p>Following the presentation, students are required to submit a report based on their presentation and the feedback received. In this exercise, students can demonstrate their competence in written communication, logical thinking, critical ability and problem-solving capacity.</p>	
<p>Student Study Effort Expected</p>	<p>Class contact:</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lectures 	<p>27 Hrs.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seminars 	<p>12 Hrs.</p>
	<p>Other student study effort:</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation preparation 	<p>30 Hrs.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading assignments and paper writing 	<p>60 Hrs.</p>
	<p>Total student study effort</p>	<p>126 Hrs.</p>
<p>Reading List and References</p>	<p><u>Essential</u></p> <p>Jacka, T., Kipnis, A. B. & Sargeson, S. (2013). <i>Contemporary China: Society and Social Change</i>. New York: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Murphy, Rachel. (2002). <i>How Migrant Labor Is Changing Rural China</i>. Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Woronov, T. (2015). <i>Class Work: Vocational Schools and China's Urban Youth</i> (pp. viii–viii). Stanford University Press.</p> <p>Poon, Alice. (2011). <i>Land and the Ruling Class in Hong Kong</i>. Singapore: Enrich Professional Pub.</p>	

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- Supplementary**
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