

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS366		
Subject Title	Family and Social Work		
Credit Value	3		
Level	3		
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil		
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment
	1. Term Paper	50%	0%
	2. Individual Presentation	30%	0%
	3. Participation in online/classroom exercise and Discussion	20%	0%
	<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 • The student must pass all components if he/she is to pass the subject. 		
Objectives	<p>The subject aims at facilitating students to develop a reflective understanding of the concepts and theories related to family and family welfare, enabling them to examine approaches and models in working with families in Hong Kong and to be analytical of the issues confronting local families, roles of the family practitioners, and family social work practice.</p>		
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. develop updated knowledge and concepts related to family and family welfare; b. identify the needs and problems of local families, and analyses the policies and services for these families; c. examine a selection of approaches and models in working with families and their application in the local context; d. reflect and affirm the professional values and roles of social workers working with local families; e. be aware of the current issues and future trends of family welfare and family social work practice. 		

<p>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge and Perspectives of Family and Family Welfare Definition of the family; reflection on values about individual needs, marriage and family; perspectives for understanding families: social changes, cultural values, the relationship between family and the state. 2. Needs and problems of Families in Local Context Families with unemployment and economically stressed problems; families with extra-marital affairs problems; reconstituted families; family violence; child abuse; families with at-risk teenage children; elderly suicide; intergenerational relationship problems in families with aging family members. 3. Policies and Services of Family Welfare Definition and concept of family policy; arguments in support of and against the development of a family policy; overview of today's families, family welfare policies and services in the contexts of developed countries and China; relationships among families, the government, and the social institutions; existing and changing policies and services for families in Hong Kong. 4. Perspectives, Approaches, and Models for Working with Families Family processes: normalcy and development; family diversity; adult centrism in social work practice with children; systemic, networking and ecological approach; latest intervention models, e.g. family mediation. 5. Current Issues and Future Trend For example, family service review; current and future intervention approaches and services for families; population policy; child sexual abuse; children's rights; family care vs. community care; family stress and resilience, etc.
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology</p>	<p>In addition to lectures for facilitating the learning of updated knowledge and research findings, guest speakers may also be invited to share their work experience. Students will be expected to participate actively in the discussion of cases, issues, and video teaching materials.</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
	1. Term Paper	50 %	√	√	√	√	√
2. Individual Presentation	30 %	√	√	√	√	√	
3. Participation in online/classroom exercise and discussion	20 %	√	√	√	√	√	
Total	100 %						
<p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>Case materials, exercises, video shows, current issues reported in research findings and local newspapers will be used to stimulate class discussion, reflections on values and skills of a social worker working with families. Students will be encouraged to read updated references and develop the focused study of a topic relevant to this subject. They will be guided to strengthen their ability of critical analysis and make meaning from the knowledge learned with a view to improving their skills to help families effectively and sensitively. Their efforts made in the aforesaid will be assessed in their participation in learning activities throughout the semester, and in the form of a group presentation, and at the end of the semester by preparing and writing the term paper.</p>							
Student Study Effort Required	Class contact:						
	▪ Lecture		24 Hrs.				
	▪ Seminar		15 Hrs.				
	Other student study effort:						
	▪ Reading references/Preparation for individual Project						
	▪ Preparation and writing term paper		40 Hrs.				
	The total student study effort		119 Hrs.				

Reading List and References

E-references:

Chan, K. L. (2005). *Study on child abuse and spouse battering: Report on findings of household survey*. Department of Social Work and Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong.

Chan K.L., Yu, L, Lo, K.M.C., Chen, M., Lo, R., & Ip, P. (2021). *Consolidation of Findings of Family Surveys Conducted since 2011*. Hong Kong: Department of Applied Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

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Department of Social Work, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. (2019). *A Study on family research in Hong Kong: A critical review and annotated bibliography*. Department of Social Work, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. https://www.familycouncil.gov.hk/en/research/research_value.html

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Central, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/polyu-ebooks/detail.action?docID=829311>.

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Supplementary

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Collins, D., Jordan, C., & Coleman, H. (2013) *An Introduction to family social work* (4th ed.). Belmont, Calif.: Brooks/Cole.

Ganong, Lawrence & Coleman, Marilyn; SpringerLink (Online service) (2017) *Stepfamily Relationships Development, Dynamics, and Interventions*. Boston, MA: Springer US

Gillian, Joseph (2017) *Diverse perspectives on aging in a changing world*. London; New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

James, R.K. (2017) *Crisis intervention strategies* (8th ed.). Thomson, Brooks/Cole.

Jenson, J.M., & Fraser, M.W. (2006) *Social policy for children and families: A risk and resilience perspective*. Calif. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

McGoldrick, M., Carter, E.A. & Garcia-Preto, N. (2011) *The expanded family life cycle: Individual, family, and social perspectives* (4th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

O'Brien, Margaret. (2017) *Comparative Perspectives on Work-life Balance and Gender Equality _Fathers on Leave Alone*. Cham: Springer International Publishing

Peters, E., & Kamp Dush, C. M. (Eds.) (2009) *Marriage and family: Perspectives and complexities*. N.Y.: Columbia U. Press.

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Vosler, N.R. (1996) *New approaches to family practice: Confronting economic stress*. Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Wallace, H. (2014) *Family Violence: Legal, medical & social perspectives*. (7th ed.) Pearson Educational Ltd.

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