

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS5212																	
Subject Title	Special Seminars on Social Policy and Social Development																	
Credit Value	3																	
Level	5																	
Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil																	
Assessment Methods	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">100% Continuous Assessment</td><td style="width: 33%;">Individual Assessment</td><td style="width: 33%;">Group Assessment</td></tr> <tr> <td>1. Participation</td><td>10%</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. Group presentation-papers</td><td></td><td>10%</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Group presentation-project</td><td>-</td><td>30%</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Individual term paper</td><td>50%</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> The followings apply to the overall grade: • 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 the specific component(s) (standard of passing) if he/she is to pass the subject.			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Participation	10%	-	2. Group presentation-papers		10%	3. Group presentation-project	-	30%	4. Individual term paper	50%	-
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1. Participation	10%	-																
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Objectives	This subject aims to keep students abreast with the most updated knowledge, approaches, and models addressing the emerging and most important issues in social policy and social development in Hong Kong and other societies. It will increase their awareness of practical application of what they have learned in this programme and readiness for working with diverse policy target populations.																	
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of this subject, students will be able to: a) gain the current knowledge about social issues related to social policy and social development in Hong Kong and other societies from a global and comparative perspective; b) understand the progress in approaches and strategies in response to these issues and its fulfillment of diverse features and needs of different policy target populations;																	

	c) utilize professional perspectives to identify and address future challenges and opportunities in this field, cultivating adaptability and resilience as lifelong learners; d) propose solutions to existing or emerging challenges using their knowledge and skills, and enhance competence in critical thinking, problem solving, effective communication, and ethical practice; e) sensitively aware of and appreciate the beauty of diversity among different social policy target populations, and develop higher level of critical thinking, creativity, and commitment to continual learning in social policy and social development
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	As a multi-method course designed to supplement the Social Policy and Social Development programme curriculum with further information and in-depth field samples, the lectures will cover following contents. The sequence and topics of the lectures are not fixed. The topics are subject to adjustments in view of the emerging issues in the field. a) frontline knowledge on imperative issues for different policy target populations in Hong Kong with a comparison with other societies. Topics may include but not limited to (1) ageing population, (2) housing problem, (3) labour and welfare conditions, (4) educational inequality, (5) gender inequality, (6) environmental problems, (7) disaster risks, and so forth. b) innovative and effective approaches or models addressing and analyzing these issues; c) key issues in workflow to generate new social policy and service approaches in response to these issues; and d) professional role and ethics in policy and model development for different populations.
Teaching/Learning Methodology	The learning process will be facilitated with blended learning strategies. Students are expected to actively and reflectively participate and prepare for lectures, group presentations, and in-class activities. a) Lectures: 13 lectures on diverse topics will be delivered by the lecturer or guest speakers. b) In-class sharing and discussion: sharing and discussion sessions will be arranged for students to have a dialogue with the lecturer or guest speakers and peer classmates on relevant issues. c) Group presentation: students in small groups will be required to analyze social policy and social development issues, and/or propose and present recommendations for and solutions to certain social needs and problems.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed				
			a	b	c	d	e
	1. Participation	10%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2. Group presentation-papers	10%					
	3. Group presentation-project	30%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4. Term Paper	50%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Total	100 %					
	Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:						
	a. Participation: Students are expected to attend all classes unless legitimate reasons exist for absences or tardiness. Attendance will be recorded and evaluated.						
	b. Group Project Presentation: Students’ performance still be assessed collaboratively as team members, problem solvers, and active learners.						
	c. Term Paper: Students should complete a term paper on an emerging issue discussed in class of interest. It evaluates their critical thinking, problem solving and writing skills. Students should demonstrate their understanding on the topic, critically reflect on what they have learned from the lectures, raise questions and suggest solutions.						
Student Study Effort Required	Class contact:						
	▪ Lecture				39 Hrs.		
	Other student study effort:						
	▪ Preparation for group presentation				20 Hrs.		
	▪ Preparation for term paper				56 Hrs.		
	Total student study effort				115 Hrs.		
Reading List and References	Textbooks are not required in this course.						
	Both required and recommended readings (research articles, reports, news						

	articles, etc.) will be provided at least one week before each lecture. Students will have access to all readings from the course website.
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