Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS536				
Subject Title	Mental Health Policy				
Credit Value	3				
Level	5				
Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil				
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment		
	1. Individual paper	50%	0%		
	2. Group presentation	0%	35%		
	3. Class activities	15%	0%		
Objectives	 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 component(s) if he/she is to pass the subject. The objectives of this subject are to provide students with conceptual and practice tools for understanding the mental health problems and services utilization from a larger policy perspective, especially during and post COVID-19 pandemic; to introduce students to the mental health policy of Hong Kong; to enable students to appreciate the use of co-production and capability approach, inclusive design thinking in building positive mental health together via policy means. 				
Intended Learning Outcomes	 Upon completion of the subject, students are able to: a. critically analyze the mental health problems and issue with service utilization of a specific population of their interests in Hong Kong, using the various approaches to understanding mental health b. employ the co-production and capability approach to recommend how they can actively involve service users (a specific group of the choice) in formulating mental health policy for a vulnerable population. 				
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	 Approaches to Understanding Mental Health problem and mental health services utilization (Class 1 and Class 2) Multidimensional nature of mental health; Public health approach to mental Health; Social determinants of mental health (Ecological system approach; Anderson Behavioral Health Model on Service Utilization) Mental Health Disparities and Health Equity (Class 3) 				

Life course approach to mental health

- 3. Approaches to formulating mental health services and policy (Class 4) Capability approach; coproduction and inclusive design
- 4. Current Mental Health Policy of Hong Kong and its Development (Class 5)
- **5.** Vulnerable population and mental health policy (Class 6-10) e.g., Older people; Cultural diversity; Gender and sexual minority; homelessness; Poverty
- 6. Project consultation and Presentation (Class 11-13)

Teaching/Lear ning Methodology

In addition to lectures conducted by the subject teacher, self-reflection exercises, audio-visual materials, simulation games, and demonstration will be used to facilitate classroom teaching. A small group of students will organize discussion, case studies or debates among their fellow classmates.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

(Note 4)

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed	
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1. Individual paper	50 %	$\sqrt{}$	
2. Group presentation	35 %		
3. Class activities	15 %		
Total	100 %		

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

- 1. Individual paper requires students to put together (1) a short reflective essay describing the mental health issue experienced by a specific targeted population (20%) and (2) an Op-ed article consolidating their thoughts and understanding on the current debates and discussions about mental health policy for a targeted vulnerable population (30%).
- 2. Participation through class activities is an idea creation, data collection, thinking and writing exercise for students to critically appraise the outcomes and processes of the integrating health and social care in human services.
- 3. The group presentation encourages students to explore and explain issues related to the mental health problems and services utilization of a targeted population in good depth, and come up with a relevant policy recommendation.

Student Study Effort Required	Class contact:	
	■ Lecture	39 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	Preparation for term paper	40 Hrs.
	 Reading 	50 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	129 Hrs.
Reading List	Essential	

Reading List and References

Essential

TextBook

Mechanic, D. (2008). *Mental health & Social Policy: Beyond Managed Care* 5th Edition. Pearson:U.S.

Approaches to understanding Mental Health

Eriksson, M., Ghazinour, M., & Hammarström, A. (2018). Different uses of Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory in public mental health research: What is their value for guiding public mental health policy and practice? *Social Theory & Health*, 16(4), 414-433. doi:10.1057/s41285-018-0065-6

Andersen, R., & Newman, J. (1973). Societal and individual determinants of medical care utilization in the United States. *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly. Health and Society*, 51(1), 95-124.

Graham, H. (2006). Social determinants and public health policy. In Killoran, A., Swann, C., Kelly, M. (Eds). Public Health Evidence: Trackling Health Inequalities(p.63-76). New York: Oxford University Press.

Mental health disparities and equity

Veugelers, P. J. (2003). Socioeconomic disparities in health care use: Does universal coverage reduce inequalities in health? *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*, 57(6), 424-428. doi:10.1136/jech.57.6.424

World Health Organization Report (2010) Health systems Financing: The Path to Universal Coverage (Executive Summary). Retrieved from https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44371/9789241564021_eng. pdf;jsessionid=1852154A5180901337ABBABE78B45D74?sequence=1

Adler, N. E., & Newman, K. (2002). Socioeconomic Disparities In Health: Pathways And Policies. *Health Affairs*, 21(2), 60-76. doi:10.1377/hlthaff.21.2.60

Approaches to Formulation of Mental Health Services and Policy

Hirani, S., & Director, S. (2017). The capability approach: A guiding framework to improve population health and the attainment of the Sustainable Developmental Goals. Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal, 23(1), 46-50. doi:10.26719/2017.23.1.46. Retrieved from

https://applications.emro.who.int/emhj/v23/01/EMHJ_2017_23_01_46_50.pdf? ua=1&ua=1&ua=1

Palumbo, R. (2016). Contextualizing co-production of health care: A systematic literature review. *International Journal of Public Sector Management*, 29(1), 72-90.

- Palumbo, R., Annarumma, C., Manna, R., Musella, M., & Adinolfi, P. (2019). Improving quality by involving patient. The role of health literacy in influencing patients' behaviors, *International Journal of Healthcare Management*, DOI: 10.1080/20479700.2019.1620458
- Pestoff, V. (2012). Co-production and Third Sector Social Services in Europe: Some Concepts and Evidence. *VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations*, 23(4), 1102-1118.

Vulnerable populations and Mental Health

- Andersen, R. (1995). Revisiting the behavioral model and access to medical care: Does it matter? *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 36(1), 1-10.
- Andersen, R., Yu, H., Wyn, R., Davidson, P., Brown, E., & Teleki, S. (2002). Access to medical care for low-income persons: how do communities make a difference? *Medical care research and review*, 59 (4), 384-411.
- Grumbach K, & Braveman P, & Adler N, & Bindman A.B. (2016). Vulnerable populations, health disparities, and health equity: an overview. King T.E., & Wheeler M.B.(Eds.), *Medical Management of Vulnerable and Underserved Patients: Principles, Practice, and Populations, 2e.* McGraw-Hill. https://accessmedicine-mhmedical-com.easyaccess1.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/content.aspx?bookid=1768§ionid=119148-218
- Graham, H., & Power, C. (2004). Childhood disadvantage and health inequalities: a framework for policy based on lifecourse research. *Child: Care, Health & Development, 30*(6), 671-678.
- Wong, S., Zhang, D., Sit, R., Yip, B., Chung, R. Y., Wong, C., Chan, D., Sun, W., Kwok, K. O., & Mercer, S. W. (2020). Impact of COVID-19 on loneliness, mental health, and health service utilisation: a prospective cohort study of older adults with multimorbidity in primary care. *The British journal of general practice: the journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners*, 70(700), e817–e824. https://doi.org/10.3399/bjgp20X713021
- Dressler, W.M., Oths, S.K., & Gravlee, C.C. (2005). Race and ethnicity in public health research: models to explain health disparities. *Annual Review of Anthropology (34)*1, 231-252
 - Ford, C. L., & Harawa, N. T. (2010). A new conceptualization of ethnicity for social epidemiologic and health equity research. *Social Science & Medicine*, 71(2), 251-258. doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2010.04.008
- Yaya S, Yeboah H, Charles CH, *et al* Ethnic and racial disparities in COVID-19-related deaths: counting the trees, hiding the forest. *BMJ Global Health* 2020;**5:**e002913.