### **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	<ul> <li>The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned;</li> <li>The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and</li> <li>Student must pass all component(s) if he/she is to pass the subject.</li> </ul> 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	<ul> <li>Upon completion of the subject, students are able to:</li> <li>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</li> <li>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.</li> <li>c. promote a humanistic and holistic understanding of users' needs, rights and life meaning concerning various mental health challenges</li> </ul>				

#### Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

## Approaches to Understanding Mental Health problem and mental health services utilization (Class 1, Class 2 and 3)

Multidimensional nature of mental health; Public health approach to mental Health; Social determinants of mental health (Ecological system approach & Life course approach). Anderson Behavioral Health Model on Service Utilization)

#### Approaches to formulating mental health services and policy (Class 4 and 5)

Integrated Health and Social Care Model; Capability approach; coproduction and inclusive design

#### **Current Mental Health Policy of Hong Kong and its Development (Class 6)**

#### Vulnerable population and mental health policy (Class 7-11)

e.g., Older people; Cultural diversity; Gender and sexual minority; homelessness; Poverty

#### **Project consultation and Presentation (Class 12-13)**

# 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			
methods/tasks		a	ь	С
1. Individual paper	50 %	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
2. Group presentation	35 %	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
3. Class activities	15 %	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
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 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 combines idea creation and in-class debates for students to critically appraise the outcomes and processes of the mental health 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 and come up with a relevant policy recommendation.					
Student Study	Class contact:					
Effort Required	■ 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					
References	<ul> <li>TextBook</li> <li>Mechanic, D. (2008). Mental health &amp; Social Policy: Beyond Managed Caledition. Pearson:U.S.</li> <li>Approaches to understanding Mental Health</li> <li>Eriksson, M., Ghazinour, M., &amp; Hammarström, A. (2018). Different uses of Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory in public mental health research: We their value for guiding public mental health policy and practice? Social &amp; Health, 16(4), 414-433. doi:10.1057/s41285-018-0065-6</li> <li>Andersen, R., &amp; Newman, J. (1973). Societal and individual determination of the United States. The Milbank Memoration Quarterly. Health and Society, 51(1), 95-124.</li> </ul>					
	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., & Richter, 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&ua=1&ua=1					

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#### **Vulnerable populations and Mental Health**

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