# Subject Description Form

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Code</th>
<th>APSS 360</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject Title</td>
<td>Social Problems and Social Issues in Contemporary China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Value</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisite / Co-requisite / Exclusion</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Continuous Assessment</th>
<th>Individual Assessment</th>
<th>Group Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Seminar Presentation and Report</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Participation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Term Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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.

## 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

Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:

a) acquire sociological perspectives and frameworks for understanding and analyzing social issues and problems

b) apply perspectives and frameworks acquired in this subject to analyze major social problems confronting the contemporary Chinese society

c) have a heightened awareness on the ethical dimension of different
# Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus

1) **Introduction**  
   - Perspectives on studying social problems

2) **Background and context**  
   - Political development of contemporary China
   - Economic development of contemporary China
   - Social development of contemporary China

3) **Selected topics on social issues in contemporary China**  
   - Urbanization
   - Rural development
   - Land politics
   - Poverty and social exclusion
   - Labor politics
   - Participation and popular contention
   - Ethnic minorities
   - Media and information revolution
   - Other topical issues

4) **Concluding reflections on social development in China**

## Teaching/Learning Methodology

In addition to the delivery of lectures, documentaries 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.

## Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific assessment methods/tasks</th>
<th>% weighting</th>
<th>Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Term Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>a ☑ b ☑ c ☑ d ☑ e ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Seminar Presentation and Report</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>a ☑ b ☑ c ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>a ☑ b ☑ c ☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>a ☑ b ☑ c ☑ d ☑ e ☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the approaches to social problem resolution
intended learning outcomes:

**Term Paper:**

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.

**Seminar Presentation and Report:**

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.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Study Effort Expected</th>
<th>Class contact:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other student study effort:</td>
<td>Presentation preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading assignments and paper writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total student study effort</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Medium of Instructions**

English supplemented with Chinese

**Medium of Assessment**

English

**Reading List and References**

Essential


Supplementary


