Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS4533				
Subject Title	Health and Society				
Credit Value	3				
Level	4				
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Pre-requisite: APSS3230 Theories of Social Policy Exclusion: APSS4522 Health Policy				
Assessment Methods	1. Presentation 40% 2. Final term paper 60% • 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.				
Objectives Intended Learning Outcomes	The subject aims to: 1. Introduce students about the relationship between health and a society's social and cultural value system 2. Sensitize students about how the concepts of health and health structure of a society is to be correlated with political, social, cultural, and economic factors of a society 3. deepen students' understanding of the social and cultural environment and its consequences for health beliefs, illness behaviours, and health care. Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: a. Show a thorough understanding on the individual, social and cultural determinants of health b. demonstrate an understanding of the social and cultural environment and its consequences for health beliefs, illness behaviors, and health care c. use different sociological perspectives in the analysis of various issues associated with healthcare				

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

- 1. The social construction of health, medical knowledge, and illness
- 2. Health inequality: health and disease in relation to social class and race
- 3. Health and disease in relation to gender: the diseased body and regulation of bodies
- 4. Medicalization and social control on health and bodies
- 5. Disease-associated stigma and discrimination
- 6. Complexity of health policy with other social policies
- 7. Choice of remedies and medical systems
- 8. Sick role
- 9. The social construction of health care as professionals
- 10. McDonaldization of health care

Teaching/Learning Methodology

A mixture of formal lectures and interactive presentations will be adopted in this subject. Active learning is emphasized. Students are expected to participate actively in class and in presentation. Students should plan and take responsibility for self-study, including the reading of books, articles, and reports relevant to the subject to prepare for the class and presentation.

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		
1. Presentation	40 %	✓	✓	✓		
2. Final term paper	60%	✓	✓	✓		
Total	100 %		•	•		

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

In this subject, students have to work in a final term paper and present their findings in the form of presentations. The presentation and final term paper topics are of students' choice, and should be related to socio-cultural aspects of health in Hong Kong. The assessment criteria include the appropriate application of theories and concepts, and critical thinking and analytical skills.

The assessment methods are appropriate in assessing the intended learning outcomes of this subject.

Student Study Effort Expected

Class contact:	
 Lectures 	36 Hrs.
Presentations	3 Hrs.
Other student study effort:	
■ Post-lecture revision	15 Hrs.

	 Preparation for presentation 	25 Hrs.	
	Preparation for final term paper	40 Hrs.	
	Total student study effort	119 Hrs.	
Reading List and References	Essential		
	Baer, H.A, Susser, I., and Merril, S. (1997). Medical Anthropology and the World System: A Critical Perspective. Bergin and Garvey.		
	Cockerham, W.C. (2013). Medical Sociology. Pearson Education.		

Gabe, J.; Bury, M., & Elston, M.N. (2004). *Key concepts in medical sociology*. London: Sage.

Weitz, R. (2017). 7th Edition. The Sociology of Health, Illness, and Health Care – A Critical Approach. Boston, USA: Cengage Leaning.

Supplementary

Chan, C.Y.Z. (Ed.) (2009). *Health issues in Chinese contexts*. New York: Nova Science Publishers.

Gauld, R., & Gould, D. (2002). *The Hong Kong health sector: Development and change*. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press.

Kelleher, D., Gabe, J., & Williams, G. (Eds.) (2006). *Challenging medicine*. (2nd Ed.). London; New York: Routledge.

Leung, G.M., & Bacon-Shone, J. (Eds.) (2006). *Hong Kong's health system: reflections, perspectives and visions*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Mahon, A., Walshe, K., & Chambers, N. (Eds.) (2009). *A reader in health policy and management*. Maidenhead: McGraw Hill/Open University Press.

McDonnell, O., Lohan, M., Hyde, A., & Porter, S. (2009). *Social theory, health & health care*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.