

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****Language Studies Courses offered to BSocSc students**

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**CSSC1001. Practical Chinese language course for social sciences students (3 credits)**

This course aims at enhancing students' knowledge and skills in practical Chinese writing in the social sciences. Students will be introduced to simplified Chinese characters, and will be trained to write letters, proposals, reports, press releases and announcements. They will also acquire the skills in making public speeches and presentations. The course involves extensive use of Chinese IT applications.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**ECEN1901. Academic English for social sciences (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to features of speaking and writing in English in an academic context. Through small group work related to language and disciplinary issues the course develops abilities to produce clear and coherent spoken and written discourse for university study in the social sciences.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**ECEN2902. English for professional communication for social sciences (3 credits)**

The course prepares students to communicate effectively and accurately and prepare themselves for workplace situations which entail the use of English. It requires students to investigate an issue relevant to their studies, improve their interview and presentation skills, and write various professional documents.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**Junior Level Courses**

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**Faculty-level Courses (FOSS)****FOSS1002. Appreciating social research (6 credits)**

Social science researchers investigate social phenomena from different perspectives using different research methodologies. This course will provide a chance for students to take a close look at social science research, and attain a general understanding of the different research orientations taken by social sciences researchers. After taking the course, students will be more knowledgeable and equipped to understand general research findings in social sciences. Emphasis will be on nurturing critical thinking skills and aptitudes for appreciating research evidences encountered in future studies and daily experiences.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**FOSS1003. Masters in social thought (6 credits)**

Over time, outstanding master thinkers in different social scientific disciplines have produced landmark studies and ingenious conceptual frameworks to illuminate the world we live in. This course introduces

students to the works and ideas of selected ‘masters’ in social sciences, in particular how they continue to enlighten us, by applying their insights to examine the pressing social issues that surround us in the intricately globalized world of today. The basis for our enquiries will be from the works of writers as diverse as Sigmund Freud, Erich Fromm, J.S. Mill, Emile Durkheim, and Karl Marx amongst others.

1. After taking the course, students will learn the ways of thinking and major insights of selected masters of social sciences.
2. Students will also be able to make use of their insights to reflect on some of the major issues they face in life.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **Department of Politics and Public Administration**

Students who wish to major/double major/minor in Politics and Public Administration must successfully complete POLI1003 in semester I or II.

Unless otherwise specified, the final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and assessment of coursework in a ratio to be announced by individual course instructors at the beginning of each semester. The weighting of examination ranges from 40-60% of total course assessment.

#### **POLI1002. Fundamentals of public administration (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course to the study of Public Administration. It seeks to introduce students to fundamental concepts and theories in the discipline. Main themes that will be examined include the traditions, core functions and processes, as well as the politics and accountability of public administration.

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#### **POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)**

It is an introductory course offered to students with no previous background in political science. It covers the basic concepts, institutions and processes that one would encounter in the study of politics. Emphasis will be placed on the application of concepts to current issues, including (but not restricted to) that of Hong Kong.

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### **Department of Psychology**

Student who intend to major in Psychology must have taken PSYC1001, or PSYC1002 and PSYC1003. Students who have taken PSYC1001 are not allowed to take PSYC1002 or PSYC1003 and vice versa. The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified.

#### **PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)**

Discussion of basic concepts in psychology and a preliminary survey of representative work carried out in various areas of psychological investigation, together with an investigation at some length of one such area.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken PSYC1002 or PSYC1003 are not allowed to take this course.

**PSYC1002. How the mind works: explorations in basic thinking processes (6 credits)**

We are all fascinated by the achievements of the human mind or brain. But we may also often ask ourselves how we can do things better, for example, remember more efficiently. This course will help us to understand more about the ways in which we solve problems, how we develop our abilities to communicate through language, and how we think creatively. It will help us to answer questions about why we forget things, how we manage to see things in the world around us, why we sleep and what our dreams mean. We will look at the ways in which the human brain operates, and how it manages to do such amazing things, through reference to research findings, theories and our own practical work. Lectures will include class demonstrations and activities, as well as videos, presented in a way to enhance your interest in, and memory of, what is already a fascinating area.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken PSYC1001 are not allowed to take this course.

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**PSYC1003. Psychology and life: personality and social influence (6 credits)**

Through lectures and a series of stimulating class activities, students in this course will learn the latest research discoveries in motivation and emotion, human development, intelligence, personality, psychological testing, stress and health, abnormal psychological functioning, psychotherapy, social attraction, social influence and social competence. The course is intended to enhance the development of self-understanding and social competence.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken PSYC1001 are not allowed to take this course.

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**Department of Social Work and Social Administration**

Students who intend to major or minor in Social Work and Social Administration must successfully complete either SOWK1001 or SOWK1003. The final grading will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in the ratio of 60:40. Teachers concerned will announce at the beginning of each semester the assessment ratio for courses not assessed in the 60:40 examination/coursework ratio.

**SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration (6 credits)**

This is a basic course in the understanding of social policy in the areas of human resources planning and education, land use and housing, ageing and social security, family and support services, etc.

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**SOWK1002. Introduction to social work (6 credits)**

The course introduces the basic principles and concepts of social work. Students will obtain an understanding of the philosophy, knowledge and values which form the base for social work practice, social work as a profession, and the role of the social worker in modern society.

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**SOWK1003. Introduction to social welfare (6 credits)**

This course introduces the basic concepts and function of social welfare. Analysis will be undertaken of the range and variety of social services in Hong Kong including family services, youth centres, outreaching services, school social work, community development, rehabilitation, elderly services, probation and correctional services.

## **Department of Sociology**

The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified. Students may select at most two courses from the following:

### **SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of sociological enquiry and the basic concepts used in sociological analysis. After some reference to the influence of inheritance and environment on human social behaviour, the course will focus on key concepts used in the analysis of cultures, social structures, social processes and social change. The relationship between research, concepts and contemporary theory will be explored at an introductory level.

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### **SOCI1002. Discovering society (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the sociological way of thinking through reference mainly to Chinese societies such as Hong Kong, Mainland China, and overseas Chinese communities.  
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)**

This course will explore, through cross-cultural comparison, key social and cultural issues, such as marriage and the family, caste and class, ethnicity and identity, language and culture, state formation, economic values, gender and religion. The course will draw on studies of the peoples and cultures of Asia.

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## **Cognitive Science Programme**

### **COGN1001. Introduction to cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course allows students to gain an understanding of the workings of the mind in the context of the technological advances that are increasingly shaping our lives and our society. The course introduces students to the domain, goals and methods of Cognitive Science, showing how different disciplines converge in their enquiry into how the brain works. With integration as the overall objective, there will be a series of lectures given by specialists within each of the major disciplines (Computer Science, Linguistics, Philosophy, Physiology and Psychology) that contribute to Cognitive Science. Each series of lectures will present case studies highlighting research findings which show how similar questions about the functioning of the human mind are answered from the perspective of each contributing discipline.

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## **Senior Level Courses**

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### **Faculty-level Courses (FOSS)**

#### **FOSS0001. Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)**

China has been undergoing dramatic and rapid social change as it becomes embedded in the global economy, and as such, has been the focus of a great deal of media attention. This course investigates the multi-faceted ways in which China's social, economic, political, and legal cultures are portrayed in different forms of contemporary media.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **FOSS0003. Human security in the global context (6 credits)**

What is Human Security? How does the security and well-being of the individual relate to the security of the state? Does the state always provide for the Human Security of its citizens? This course attempts to answer these questions by exploring the contemporary relationship between globalisation, development and Human Security. Human Security refers to the safeguarding of individuals and groups from the threats that may endanger the basic survival of human beings. These threats go beyond our traditional understanding of security threats, (e.g. attack from another state) to include poverty, economic inequality, diseases, human rights abuses, environmental pollution, and natural disasters.

The first section of the course reviews the emergence of Human Security, and its major themes and meanings. This includes a discussion of the differences between the “Freedom from Fear” and the “Freedom from Want” agenda in policy interpretations of Human Security. The course first covers the “Freedom from Want” agenda to explore how poverty and inequality, public health, the environment, and gender, impact on the Human Security of individuals and groups in the development process. The “Freedom from Fear” section then explores how war and violence, in their different forms, relate to Human Security and human rights, including what the normative and practical arguments are in favour of, and against, humanitarian intervention in war and conflict situations. This section focuses on the rights based ideas within the Human Security agenda, and explores the complex moral and ethical debates surrounding the international community’s “Responsibility to Protect” and “Duty to Prevent” in ethnic conflict and humanitarian disasters.

The final section asks if and how Human Security is relevant to Hong Kong people, and explores the role of international organisations, NGOs, and civil society in addressing Human Security concerns. Students are also pushed to consider the challenges facing the implementation of a Human Security agenda in the global context. How can it be meaningfully applied in a policy context? Should Human Security be defined more narrowly to increase its policy worth, or take on a broader definition to include both the Freedom from Fear and Freedom from Want agendas? The use of case studies and simulation exercises throughout the course uses real world examples to help students understand and apply the material covered. Students are encouraged to make their own critical judgments about the value of the Human Security agenda towards the end of the course.

Assessment: The course is based on 40% examination and 60% coursework.

### **FOSS0004. Gender and the global economy (6 credits)**

The systematic study of the role gender plays in development, however the latter was defined, has spanned at least three decades. Gender analysis, or applying the gender lens to look at the world, has proven indispensable to the formulation, implementation and evaluation of human-centred development strategies. Theories and approaches of gender and development have waxed and waned, but the fundamental problems of women’s subordination, the Third World state’s political and economic vulnerability, and increasing poverty amidst a world order of global capitalism remain.

This course begins with an overview of the concept of ‘development’ and theories of gender and development. The latter had paralleled the rise and fall of dominant paradigms. This would prepare us for an in-depth exploration of the macro *processes* that shape the Third World state and society today: colonialism, national liberation and problems of nation-building, and the ever strengthening force of global capital and global institutions. These processes, combined with local culture and social structure, have differential impact on men and women. Specifically for this semester, we focus on various forms of women’s incorporation into the global economy, and their implications for the household, the community, and the state. Finally, we wonder to what extent solutions and alternatives could be found in development NGOs, the global and local women’s movements, and creative initiatives from civil society.

The course, as such, is necessarily informed by multiple disciplines, and would be of interest to students of cultural studies, economics, sociology, anthropology, politics and international relations. Where appropriate, videos will be used as teaching aid.

Last but not least, the study of gender and development, or gender and the global economy, cannot be done in an ivory tower. A number of “field” activities have been deliberately designed to increase students’ exposure.

Assessment: 40% examination and 60% coursework.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken POLI0016 are not allowed to take this course.

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#### **FOSS0005. Globalization and crime (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the study of the relationship between globalization and crime. It is divided into three main sections. The first part of the course introduces students to the major perspectives of globalization and how crime fits into these discussions. The second part of the course examines recent efforts to understand the dialectical process of crime and globalization using examples like the global drug economy, corruption and human trafficking. The third section will contend with the obstacles and strategies for addressing crime in the global context.

This course provides students with a better understanding of the ways in which crime and globalization interact. It is also designed to facilitate students’ critical thinking about how crime operates in the local and transnational context and the difficulties in dealing with crime at these two levels.

Assessment: 50% examination and 50% coursework (30% an individual portfolio and 20% a group project).

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#### **FOSS0006. Drug control in comparative perspective (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the historical and contemporary trends in illicit drug use around the world and public policy efforts to control it. The course is divided into three main sections. The first part of the course introduces students to the rise of opiate use in China and elsewhere, the Opium Wars, and the resulting international efforts to control opiate consumption and production. The second part of the course examines contemporary international and local efforts to deal with current drug use including heroin, cocaine and amphetamine type stimulants. The third section will be devoted to examining efforts to shift from a crime oriented perspective of illicit drug use to that of a public health approach focusing on ways to educate and reduce the harms associated with illicit drug use. Examples are drawn from a number of countries including Hong Kong, China, Thailand, the U.S., the United Kingdom, Australia and the Netherlands.

This course provides students with a better understanding of the construction of social control policies in relation to the consumption of “pleasurable substances.” It is designed to facilitate students’ critical thinking about such questions as: Who is making these policies? Why are these policies being made? Who are these policies directed at? What impact have these policies had?

Assessment: 50% examination and 50% coursework (30% an individual portfolio and 20% a group project).

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#### **FOSS0007. Policy/practice research project (9 credits)**

This course is under the Social Exposure Programme of the Faculty which aims at assisting students to develop critical thinking, analytic ability, and to improve their effective interpersonal and communication skills. A student or a group of students of not more than 3 may choose a policy/practice research project of individual interest from a list provided. The responsible teacher of the project will provide supervision to the student(s). The work involved should not be less than 160 hours during term time and/or summer time. The works involved can be literature review, data collection, data analysis, report writing, or a combination of the above work.

Assessment: journal: 25%, project involvement: 30%, project presentation: 15%, seminar participation: 15%, individual report: 15%.

**FOSS0008. Social science internship (9 credits)**

This course is under the Social Exposure Programme of the Faculty which aims at preparing students to develop a good understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience and applying knowledge and skills learned to real life situations. Students are expected to become more socially aware, develop critical thinking and analytic ability, and improve their effective interpersonal and communication skills. A pair of students will be placed in an NGO, a public authority or a Centre affiliated to the Faculty for a period of not less than 160 hours during term time or summer time. Students will work for the organization under the supervision of its relevant staff. The work may involve preparation of reports, carrying out research work or other relevant activities.

Assessment: journals: 25%, project involvement: 30%, seminar participation: 15%, project presentation: 15%, group report: 15%.

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**FOSS0009. Social justice summer internship (9 credits)**

This Internship is similar to the Social Science Internship except that a social science student will pair up with a law student. They will work full time in the internship organization during summer for a period of not less than 160 hours. The pair will work for the organization at the supervision of its relevant staff. They may help with preparation of reports, carrying out research work or other relevant activities. The uniqueness of this scheme is for social science students to acquire the knowledge and understanding of the socio-legal aspects of different social issues through the collaborations and interaction with law students.

Assessment: journal: 25%, project involvement: 30%, seminar participation: 15%, project presentation: 15%, individual report: 15%.

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**FOSS0010. East Asian politics and societies (6 credits)**

This course provides a multidisciplinary survey of contemporary political, economic, socio-cultural issues in three countries (areas) in East Asia in the era of globalization: Taiwan, South Korea and Japan. Three broad themes of topics will be examined: political system, political economy and social-cultural issues.

We will ask following major questions: What are the basic features of political systems in these countries? What are the salient political issues in these countries? Why and to what extent do these countries succeeded in achieving industrialization? How are these countries coping with the increasing challenges of globalization? What are the impact of globalization on the societies and cultures of these countries? It attempts to posit these issues and questions within the broader contexts of theoretical perspectives of political science and sociology.

Assessment: The course is based on 50% examination and 50% coursework.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken POLI0012 are not allowed to take this course.

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**FOSS0011. Researching media and culture (6 credits)**

This course provides students with both analytical and practical tools to conduct research on culture and media. It examines the logic and procedures involved in qualitative and quantitative research, focusing on the formulation of the research problem to research design, data collection, data analysis, and finally presenting research results. Through workshops and tutorials, students will acquire practical skills in doing research in media and culture, particularly content analysis, textual analysis, industry studies and reception studies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**FOSS0013. Understanding global issues (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course on world politics. The purpose of this course is to help students to understand major global issues and familiarize them with basic concepts, approaches, and controversies in international relations studies. As we are living in a 'shrinking' world characterized by unprecedented levels of global interdependence, the course will also focus on the processes and impacts of globalization on international relations. Some of the issues studied in the course will include humanitarian intervention, global economic governance, poverty and inequality, international security threats, and transnational environmental problems.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken POLI0021 are not allowed to take this course.

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**FOSS0014. Cultural studies and modern societies (6 credits)**

Cultural studies has been one of the frontier subjects in social sciences and the humanities in the past two decades. This course introduces students to the major theories and methods involved. It does this by examining a range of substantive cultural phenomena accompanying the rise and transformation of modern societies. These include the rise of mass entertainment industries and their influence on social outlook and behaviour; the role of consumption in maintaining social identities and status hierarchy; street culture and youth behaviour; the search for fantasies in the shopping mall; new regimes of body management and their impact on gender relations; the survival of the most traditional ritual practices in a high-tech society; the impact of the globalization of production and consumption on notions of pleasure, space and time; and the triumph of image over substance in the media-saturated post-modern world. The learning approach adopted, befitting the complex nature of the issues, will be multi-disciplinary and multi-layered, consisting of theoretical engagements as well as practical project work. Students interested in modern media, journalism, popular culture and globalization will find the knowledge offered in this course indispensable.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

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**FOSS0015. Sexing culture and identity (6 credits)**

What is gender? What is sex? How does our culture portray a "normal" female and male? How do popular culture, the law, medicine and science shape our sense of being women and men? How are we to perform these gendered expectations? Do we have two sexes only? What is transgender and transexuality?

Ideas and ideals about women's and men's roles in contemporary society are a contentious and multifaceted topic. This course, co-taught by lecturers of different academic trainings, is designed to introduce students to a number of concepts and theoretical approaches to the study of gender and sexuality. It aims to help students to have better understanding of cultural constructions of gender and sexuality and the many debates and controversies surrounding these areas. To unravel cultural assumptions about gender and sexuality, it will use a variety of texts including films, documentaries, fictions, popular psychology, and scholarly journal articles to interrogate how different societies create certain ideals of femininity, masculinity, and sexuality to make us who we are.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**FOSS3003. Research project/internship in global studies (6 credits)**

This 6-credit, year-long independent studies project is compulsory for candidates who major in this programme and is designed to offer majors the chance to apply their theoretical training to a real world issue.

For the research project, students will design, conduct, and write-up their own research paper under the supervision of their FOSS 3001 supervisor. Students will also be obligated to find an additional research advisor who will have agreed to provide significant guidance and expert advice to the student



throughout the course of this project. The final research paper will be approximately 20 pages long (double-spaced, 12 pt font, approximately 5000 words).

For the internship, students will be placed in an organization, which has a regional or global agenda, for not less than 100 hours. Students are expected to integrate their classroom learning into their placement experience and develop better understanding of global issues in a real life situation. They have to submit not less than 6 reflective journals, around 500 words each, and a 2000 words final report at the end of the course.

Prerequisite: FOSS1002 Appreciating social research or similar research methodology course which is subject to the discretion of Programme Coordinator.

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#### **FOSS3004. Project/internship in media and cultural studies (6 credits)**

It is compulsory for all final year candidates who major in this programme to undertake either a year-long independent research project or internship program. For those who undertake the project, there will be regular research meetings which are designed to allow students to formulate and carry out a project on a topic of their own choosing related to the Media and Cultural Studies programme, under the guidance from a supervisor and advice from an adviser. At the end of the course, students have to submit a final research paper of approximately 5000 words and give a multi-media presentation. For those who are intended to take this course, FOSS0011 is highly recommended.

For those who undertake internship, they will be placed in a cultural or media agency for not less than 100 hours. Students are expected to integrate their classroom learning into their placement experience and develop better understanding of media and cultural issues in a real life situation. They have to submit not less than 6 reflective journals, around 500 words each, and a 2000 words final report at the end of the course.

Prerequisite: FOSS1002 Appreciating social research or similar research methodology course which is subject to the discretion of Programme Coordinator.

(The choice of research project or internship is subject to the final approval of the Programme Coordinator.)

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#### **Department of Politics and Public Administration**

Unless otherwise specified, the final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and assessment of coursework in a ratio to be announced by individual course instructors at the beginning of each semester. The weighting of examination ranges from 40-60% of total course assessment.

#### **POLI0001. A special topic in political science (6 credits)**

This course is offered from time to time. Students should consult the Department on the content of the unit on offer.

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#### **POLI0002. A special topic in political theory (6 credits)**

Each year (if possible) a political theory course will be offered under this heading. The topic chosen will depend upon the interests of staff and students. Students should consult the Department on the content of the course on offer.

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#### **POLI0003. Approaches to foreign policy analysis (6 credits)**

The process by which states arrive at foreign policy positions is the central focus of this course. Examples will be drawn largely from the U.S.A., China and the United Kingdom. Major crises and events will be studied in some detail to underline the action - reaction nature of foreign policy. The course is intended for those who have studied International Politics in a previous semester.

**POLI0004. Bureaucracy and the public (6 credits)**

This course examines the political, legal and social dimensions of interaction between bureaucracies and the public. Consideration will be given to the effectiveness of complaint-handling institutions, such as the ombudsman, Freedom of Information Acts, secrecy provisions and the roles played by street-level bureaucrats.

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**POLI0005. Capitalism and social justice (6 credits)**

This course discusses the morality of capitalism with reference to such issues as exploitation, social justice and equality. Topics include the philosophical defence of free-market capitalism, egalitarian theories of social justice, Marxist critique of capitalism, the concept of exploitation, and welfare rights.

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**POLI0006. China and Hong Kong: the politics of transition (6 credits)**

The development of relations between China and Hong Kong since 1982 is critical to our understanding of Hong Kong's current political problems. This course focuses on the Basic Law, autonomy, democratization, and Hong Kong's political, economic and legal interaction with China.

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**POLI0009. Comparative politics (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the methods and issues of comparative politics. It will examine the logic and method of comparative politics and some key issues in the comparative study of political behaviour, institutions and processes, such as political culture, political participation, political parties, intergovernmental relations, state-society relations and political development.

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**POLI0010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)**

This course discusses basic and practical issues concerning the nature, justification, and limits of democracy. Topics include the concept and foundations of democracy, participatory democracy, the elitist challenge to democracy, Marxist critique of capitalist democracy, rational choice approaches to democracy, and others.

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**POLI0012. East Asian political economy (6 credits)**

This course aims to examine the political processes that underlie the rapid economic transformation of East Asian countries. We will mainly cover Japan and the newly industrializing economies, namely Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea, but comparisons with China and other emerging economies such as Malaysia and Thailand will also be made. We will first introduce the salient features of the East Asian model of development and we will then analyze the pattern of political development, the relations between the state and other political actors, the development of administrative system, as well as the impact of international relations and strategic factors on the domestic political and economic processes of these cases.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken FOSS0010 are not allowed to take this course.

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**POLI0013. Elections and representative democracy (6 credits)**

This course examines the relationship between various aspects of elections and representative democracy. Electoral systems, various aspects of the electoral process, the role of representatives, among other topics, will be studied in relation to democratic principles and theories of representation. Examples will be drawn from both Hong Kong and other political systems.

**POLI0015. Ethics and public affairs (6 credits)**

This course examines major public issues in contemporary societies from the perspectives of ethics and political theory. It aims to enhance students' abilities to critically analyze controversial ethical issues in public affairs. Topics include the nature and methods of moral arguments, major approaches in ethics and political theory, and selected studies of current public issues in the fields of global ethics, market ethics, and political and administrative ethics.

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**POLI0016. Gender and development (6 credits)**

This course introduces the gender dimension to the study of development, especially in an era of globalization. It begins with an overview of the articulation of gender concerns in western development theory and practice in the last three decades, and explores in greater depth the gendered impact of certain key processes at work today. They include war and nation building, the debt crisis, global economic restructuring and labour migration, global governance and the international women's movement.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken FOSS0004 are not allowed to take this course.

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**POLI0017. Government and business (6 credits)**

This course explores the interplay between government and business within major East Asian countries and how regional economic dynamism is shaping regional international relations in East Asia. The theoretical focus is on how government policy affects the market and how economic forces shape government political decisions. At the international level, it seeks to examine the political basis of regional economic integration and the economic foundation of international political cooperation in East Asia. Issue areas for this course include: the economic dynamism in East Asia, sub-regional economic growth circles, patterns of trade and investment, APEC, and security challenges and economic regionalism.

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**POLI0018. The Japanese way of politics (6 credits)**

The main questions to be addressed in this course include: What are the main characteristics of the Japanese democracy? How does it differ from other liberal democracies? Why had the LDP maintained its long-lasting rule between 1955 and 1993? What is the role of the bureaucracy in Japanese politics? How does the business community exert its political influence? What are the main characteristics of the Japanese political culture? How do ordinary Japanese and social groups exercise their political power? What are the main sources of political change in the 1990s? What contributed to the end of the LDP's dominance in national politics? What are the main changes in the electoral system? How do the Japanese political culture and domestic politics affect Japanese foreign relations?

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**POLI0019. Hong Kong and the world (6 credits)**

Hong Kong's international character has been vital to its prosperity and vitality. While Hong Kong's 'foreign affairs portfolio' is controlled by China, Hong Kong retains considerable autonomy in shaping its international destiny. What global course should Hong Kong leaders chart? This class will examine the Special Administrative Region's unique international status, its complex identity as a Chinese world city, and its track record in facing the challenges and opportunities associated with today's highly interdependent global system.

**POLI0020. Hong Kong politics (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the legal, political and institutional structure of the Hong Kong government. The political culture and attitudes of the Hong Kong people are discussed. Other topics include the Chief Executive, legislative politics, constitutional politics, public opinion, pressure groups, political parties, mass media, and Beijing's policy toward Hong Kong.

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**POLI0021. Understanding global issues (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course on world politics. The purpose of this course is to help students to understand major global issues and familiarize them with basic concepts, approaches, and controversies in international relations studies. As we are living in a 'shrinking' world characterized by unprecedented levels of global interdependence, the course will also focus on the processes and impacts of globalization on international relations. Some of the issues studied in the course will include humanitarian intervention, global economic governance, poverty and inequality, international security threats, and transnational environmental problems.

Eligibility: Students taking or having taken FOSS0013 are not allowed to take this course.

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**POLI0022. Governing China (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to contemporary Chinese politics. The main objective is to understand the ideology, institutions and processes of the contemporary Chinese political system and explore the socio-economic consequences, achievements, and problems of Chinese socialism.

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**POLI0023. Issues in contemporary Chinese politics (6 credits)**

An overview of some recent policy changes in China which are studied in the light of two main themes: the different ways in which political power is manifested, and the changing perceptions of ways in which governance of the state can best be effected: and to what ends.

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**POLI0024. Issues in public administration (6 credits)**

This course offers an opportunity for students to examine current issues in public administration, particularly those facing the Hong Kong government.

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**POLI0025. Managerial skills in public organizations (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the activities and functions of managers in public organizations. Emphasis is put on the environment and context within which public managers operate, and various managerial skills and tools that are essential to effective public managers. Students are expected to acquire skills to manage conflicts, lead, manage resources, communicate, and make decisions in the context of public organizations. Reference is made to the experiences in various public or non-profit organizations in Hong Kong.

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**POLI0027. Public policy-making: theories and application (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to major theoretical frameworks that have been devised to understand and explain public policy-making. The main questions asked are: why are certain policies

made instead of others? What are the major factors that affect public policy-making? Empirical studies from both Hong Kong and elsewhere are included to illustrate the application of the theories. [Students wishing to take this course will normally have taken first year introductory courses in our department. Students are free to take the course from their third semester onward, but as the course involves some level of difficulty, it *may* be advisable to take the course after the 4th semester.]

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**POLI0031. Politics of economic reform in China (6 credits)**

This course examines the politics of economic reform in contemporary China. Issues covered include the connections between politics and economics, the political debates over economic reforms, the rationale and themes of the economic reform programme and the social and political consequences resulting from the implementation of these reforms. Reform policies to be studied include rural reform, enterprise reform, central-local relations as well as foreign economic policy.

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**POLI0033. Problems of the Third World (6 credits)**

This course explores the concept and dynamics of "development" through considering a range of concrete problems that have assumed primacy in the Third World today. Issues discussed will include ethnic conflict and displacement; poverty and inequality; foreign aid and neoliberal globalization; urbanization and environmental destruction; and civil society and democratization.

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**POLI0034. Public administration in China (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide a critical introduction to public administration in contemporary China. Key topics that will be covered include the organization of the political system, policy-making and implementation, management and reform of the civil service, local government, public finance, and the relationship between government and business. The political and administrative implications of China's integration into the world economy will also be examined.

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**POLI0035. Public administration in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

Public administration in Hong Kong has been going through a series of reform over the last decade or so. This course introduces students to the major issues confronting the bureaucracy, in particular its relationships to other actors in the political system and questions of accountability.

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**POLI0037. Managing people in public organizations (6 credits)**

The course examines the environment, institutions, processes and issues involved in the management of people in public organizations, particularly the Hong Kong government. Comparisons are made to the experience of managing people in public organizations overseas.

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**POLI0038. Public policy and democracy (6 credits)**

This course examines arguments for a more fundamental rethinking about the proper roles of government, community organizations, and citizens in public policy-making and new forms of service delivery. Potential consequences of public sector reforms for program effectiveness as well as for political and social citizenship will be considered.

**POLI0039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course in the production of advice for public decisions and actions. This course emphasizes both the art and craft of policy analysis. The "art" dimension focuses on the skills in defining problems for analysis. The "craft" dimension, on the other hand, is concerned with theories, skills, and techniques that can be used to analyze, design, and assess policy options. Illustration is made with reference to policy problems in Hong Kong.

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**POLI0040. Public sector management (6 credits)**

This course examines the structural design and operation of public section as well as public organizations. Issues such as the use of various forms of organization in public service delivery, the adoption of corporatization and privatization, and public sector reform will be addressed. Reference is made to the experience in Hong Kong.

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**POLI0041. Research methods for politics and public administration (6 credits)**

Relevant, valid and reliable information is essential in making sound political and administrative decisions. This course examines issues on research design, measurement and scaling, sampling, and data collection and analysis, with emphasis on methods commonly used by politicians and public administrators such as mailed questionnaires, telephone interviews and focus groups. The course also examines the use of opinion polls, interpretation of poll results, and their effects on elections.

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**POLI0044. American democracy (6 credits)**

The political system of the United States is often touted as the quintessential democracy in the world. While the democratic ideals embodied in the system have inspired many, the system also contains some important flaws. This course is to put the political system to the test. What are the philosophical foundations of the political system? What role does American political culture play? How are the powers divided among different branches of federal and state governments? How do individuals and interest groups exercise political power? How does the system work? To answer these questions and others, we will examine the philosophical foundations, working mechanisms, and major controversies associated with the American political system.

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**POLI0045. The political economy of the European Union (6 credits)**

This course examines the political and economic dimension of the European Union. It will include a consideration of its political history, structure, policies and the effects of the market on national politics and economics.

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**POLI0046. Thesis in politics or public administration (12 credits)**

The thesis will consist of an investigation into a relevant aspect of politics or public administration which must be chosen in consultation with the supervisor before July 1 in the year preceding the final examination. The thesis must be submitted before April 1 of the following year.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

**POLI0047. United States foreign policy (6 credits)**

How does one make sense of the seeming "arrogance" of U.S. foreign policy? By enhancing student understanding of the causes and consequences of American international political choices, this course seeks to groom well-informed and objective critics of U.S. foreign policy. The course will examine the intellectual foundations associated with and the domestic political actors involved in U.S. international policy formulation and implementation. Students will then have the opportunity to apply this knowledge in a critical evaluation of some of the major international policy decisions made by the U.S. since WWII. The course will conclude with a discussion of the future of U.S. foreign policy, paying particular attention to the impact of the 9-11 attacks on the American world view.

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**POLI0050. Women and politics (6 credits)**

This course asks why gender matters in politics and how women's integration into political life is important to the fulfillment of democratic citizenship. It will examine shortfalls in reality and seek to understand the processes whereby most women "vanish" from public decision making. Drawing from progressive experiences in different parts of the world, the course explores ways in which politics could be made more women-friendly, and how women's participation could help transform the nature and content of politics.

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**POLI0051. Issues in Chinese political philosophy (6 credits)**

A comparative study of Chinese and Western political philosophy, with special emphasis on Confucianism and liberalism. Topics include the nature of classical Confucian political thought, the developments of the Confucian traditions in response to local political changes and to the challenges presented by western liberalism, the contemporary discourse on Confucianism and human rights, freedom, and democracy, and other related issues. Reference will be made to Chinese materials.

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**POLI0052. International relations of East Asia (6 credits)**

This course helps students to have a better understanding of major trends and issues in international relations of East Asia. Instead of providing a comprehensive survey of the history, culture, and national policies of countries in the region, it mainly addresses four issues in the course: What are major trends in regional IR? What is the source of conflict in the region? What are the common interests that unite peoples and states of East Asia? How does the region organize itself? It explains dynamics and patterns of regional international relations in a broad geopolitical and geoeconomic context. Topics in discussion include major powers' role in the region, the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan Strait, ASEAN, Southeastern Asia and regional institution-building.

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**POLI0058. Managing the global economy (6 credits)**

This course examines the interaction of politics and economics in international relations with reference to the world economy's most dynamic region – the Asia-Pacific. It identifies the political considerations in global economic relations and analyzes the impact of economic factors on international relations. The course addresses four major areas. First, different theoretical perspectives on the free market global economy such as free trade versus environmental protection and competing priorities in different countries. Second, the key institutions in the global economic system – the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Third, critical issues in East Asia such as the role of the state in economic management, security and political factors in international economic relations and the prospects of regional economic co-operation. Finally, the major political challenges arising from economic conflicts in individual countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

**POLI0059. China and the world (6 credits)**

China's place in the world has changed dramatically since the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. How do we account for the transformation of the country's position from being a Soviet ally challenging the West, to an independent radical revolutionary state, and then reform-minded country eager to join the international community? As communism collapsed elsewhere after the end of the Cold War China is becoming an emerging global power practising "socialism with Chinese characteristics". How do we understand and analyze China's relations with the rest of the world? This course examines China's interaction with the rest of the world since 1949, with reference on competing perspectives including power-political, economic inter-dependence and historical-cultural analysis. The course concludes with a critical assessment of China's position in a globalizing world.

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**POLI0060. Public financial management (6 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of financial management in the public sector from a theoretical and practical perspective. The focus is primarily on the conceptual, methodological and institutional aspects of public expenditure and revenue management. The subject is approached largely from an economic standpoint, but there is also some exposure to accounting principles. However, no previous knowledge of either economics or accounting is assumed.

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**POLI0061. Hong Kong and South China: the political economy of regional development and cooperation (6 credits)**

The growing integration between Hong Kong and south China has profound implications not only for this region, but also for China and Asia as a whole. This course aims to analyze such an important development and its many implications. It is divided into three parts. Part I offers an overview of the development of the south China region. Theoretical approaches in the study of regionalism, intergovernmental relations and globalization and their relevance for understanding south China will also be examined. Part II analyses the social, economic and political links between Hong Kong and Greater China and the development experience of south China since the late 1970s. Part III will focus on several key issues in regional development and cooperation in the south China region, including intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms, economic and technological development, demographic flows, boundary control, transportation and infra-structural development, as well as environmental management.

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**POLI0062. Political analysis (6 credits)**

This senior division course is designed for politics and public administration majors for whom it is compulsory. Based on classical texts in political science and public administration that illustrate the methods of our discipline, the course teaches the skills of political analysis. Students will examine topics such as political culture, bureaucracy, revolution, democracy, social capital, political system, public choice, war and peace, and so forth.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI0063. Performance and accountability in the public sector (6 credits)**

This course examines the ideas and practices of 'contractualism' in the Public Sector, between and within bureaus, with external providers of public services and with the general public as users of those services. Its focus is on the role of 'performance' (standards, measurement and evaluation) as a key management tool in the contract environment. The course explores the potential value of these developments for public sector accountability.



**POLI0064. Governance and law (6 credits)**

This course seeks to understand why the state regulates certain activities and behaviour in society, what different forms of regulation exist, when and what kind of legal regulation is deemed necessary, how legal regulation is enforced, and checks and balances against abuse in enforcement. This course is jointly taught by staff from the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Department of Law. The main objective of the course is to explore the interface between the study of Politics and Law in understanding governance. Relevant case studies will be included for illustration and discussion. To take this course, students must have successfully completed POLI1002 Fundamentals of public administration and LLAW2002 Administrative Law. BSS(Government and Laws) students are allowed to take either POLI0064 or LLAW3080 to fulfill the respective programme requirements for the Department of Politics and Public Administration or the Department of Law.

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**POLI0065. Public organization and management (6 credits)**

This course will examine the fundamental theories of (i) organizational behaviours; (ii) organizational structures; (iii) decision making processes; and (iv) organizational management with particular emphasis on public organizations. To substantiate the validity of the theories, emphasis is placed on the application of theory to various organizational settings including public and nonprofit organizations, and the local, state and federal levels of bureaucracies. At the end of the course, students will have obtained the ability to develop critical perspectives on the modus operandi of organizations and to formulate problem-solving mechanisms under complex decision-making situations.

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**POLI0066. Public administration and the public (6 credits)**

"Government is an instrument of the public for acting **collectively**." What distincts public administration from business administration is the notion of "the public". In the age of New Public Management, however, the distinctiveness and the identity of "the public" seem to have been largely lost. This course seeks to (1) rediscover the "public" in public administration by analyzing various plausible conceptions of the public in relation to public administration, for example, as constituents, clients, customers, and citizens; and (2) evaluate the respective forms and potential for public participation in the processes of administration in these conceptions.

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**POLI0067. Liberalism and its limits (6 credits)**

This course explores a set of fundamental issues in liberalism. Liberalism, which is arguably the most influential tradition of political theory today, is about the proper scope of individual freedom and state power. Some of the issues to be discussed in this course are: What is freedom and what is its ground? Under what conditions should the state interfere with individual freedom? Should the state ban or discourage unethical or worthless ways of life? Should the state coerce people for their own good? Should we have the freedom to exclude people whom we don't like? What is so valuable about personal autonomy? The course aims to assess the strengths and limits of liberalism by examining the arguments for and against the liberal views on these issues.

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**Department of Psychology**

In addition to class sessions, each course may include a practical element on which candidates may expect to spend about two hours per week.

The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and by assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified.

**Semesters III to VI****PSYC0001. Research methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research techniques in psychology. It is designed to provide students with the necessary background in research design and data analysis for their own independent research into areas of psychological interest. The logic of statistical inference and scientific explanation, their relations to human values, the merits and limitations of quantitative approaches to the study of psychological phenomena will all be discussed.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002 or PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0002. Psychological testing and measurement (6 credits)**

This course surveys the major concepts and techniques in the field of psychometrics, and provides students with some hands-on experience with commonly used tests. Topics covered include: the context of testing and measurement; the testing process; test standardization; reliability and validity; intelligence and its appraisal; personality assessment; special domain testing; occupational applications; large-scale measurements; ethics and prospects.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0005. Introduction to counselling and therapeutic psychology (6 credits)**

Provides a theoretical foundation for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of counselling or to explore their potential for professional training in mental health. Some experiential learning will be used. Major approaches; skills and practice; ethics and limitations of counselling. Working with various clinical and non-clinical populations. Cultural values and socio-political contexts. Outcome and process research. Students with personality and abnormal psychology knowledge preferred.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers how humans learn to deal with information from the environment. Topics include various aspects of perception, memory, concept structure and learning, and thinking. Students will be involved in conducting experiments on cognitive functioning as part of the coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002.

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**PSYC0008. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers some recent approaches in the field of cognitive psychology. Topics may include the cognitive unconscious in perception and memory, conditioning versus cognitive learning in humans, neural networks and information processing, as well as other topics reflecting the interests of the teacher.

Prerequisites: PSYC0007.

**PSYC0009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to developmental psychology from a life-span perspective. The topics include: basic concepts and theories of human development; research methodology and issues in the study of developmental change; biological, environmental and social influences on development; processes of physical development over the life-span; attachment and emotional development; development of perception, language, cognition and morality; development of personality and social relationships.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003

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**PSYC0010. History and issues in psychology (6 credits)**

An examination of some of the major issues and controversies in the history of psychology which are important for the current debate and its continuation.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0016. The psychology of stress and health (6 credits)**

This course adopts a biopsychosocial approach in exploring current issues and research on stress and health. Special emphasis is placed on the Hong Kong situation. Topics covered include: concepts of stress; the roles of cognition, personality and physiology in the stress response; social stressors; coping, stress management and health promotion; concepts of health and wellness; cultural implications. Students in this course shall undertake independent research projects.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**PSYC0017. Motivation and achievement (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to theories and research on achievement motivation. The course will cover a variety of topics including: motivation as a personal trait; situational causes of motivation; cognition and motivation; sociocultural influences on motivation and achievement; the role of meaning in motivation; sex differences in achievement and work investment; age and achievement motivation; enhancing motivation in learning.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003; and either PSYC0019 or PSYC0020 or PSYC0035.

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**PSYC0019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)**

This course will critically examine and attempt a synthesis of a number of theories of personality as exemplified in the lives of some of the significant figures in the field. The relationship of specific theories to practical applications, personality assessment and psychotherapeutic techniques may be included. The major aims of the course are to provide a survey of the breadth and complexity of this field and to provide a perspective from which to examine assumptions about human nature and the evaluation of behaviour.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

**PSYC0020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)**

The course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers social perception, social cognition, social motivation, attitudes and attitude change, attitude and behaviour, aggression, helping, interpersonal attraction, social influence on individual behaviour and group dynamics. The effects of Chinese culture on various social behaviours will form part of the discussion.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002 or PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0022. Biological psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to biological aspects of behaviour. The topics include: biological bases of behaviour, development, learning, memory, and abnormal psychology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; genetic influences; psychophysiology.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002.

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**PSYC0023. Psychology of human communication (6 credits)**

This course is a laboratory course in applied social psychology. It examines the cognitive and interpersonal bases of human communication. Topics include: the cognitive and interpersonal processes involved in message formulation and comprehension; the communicative functions of nonverbal behaviour such as filled pauses and hand gestures; the cognitive and social consequences of language use; and social cognitive models of persuasive communication.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0029. Cognitive development (6 credits)**

This course will explore the development of our cognitive abilities and capacities through early childhood, when the most complex and interesting changes occur. Cognition, in the form of problem-solving, memory, attention, categorization, language and so on, is at the core of what makes us human. Changes in these abilities are closely related to developments in our physical, motor, and perceptual capacities, as well as to social and emotional growth. Our understanding of the development of a person's ability to think, reason and conceptualize has advanced significantly in the past few decades. We will examine both the findings and experimental methods of recent research on these topics.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0030. Computational models of perception and behaviour (6 credits)**

An advanced course that explores some areas of psychological research where computational models can usefully be developed. Computer models, constrained by neurobiological data, can help reveal how networks of neurones subserve perception and behaviour. Detailed attention will be given to computational analysis of problems in visual perception, biological sensing more generally, and motor behaviour. Computational theories of human visual perception, in particular David Marr's seminal work, will also be discussed. While not an essential prerequisite, students are recommended to have taken Perception (PSYC0051) or a course in sensory neuroscience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or PSYC1002.

**PSYC0032. Engineering psychology (6 credits)**

This course examines how knowledge in experimental/cognitive psychology is applied to the design of man-machine interface, tools, games, consumer products, etc. Students will appreciate how better designs lead to positive outcomes such as higher user satisfaction, lower accident rate, and lower job stress. Topics include human skills, motor theory, human-computer interaction, safety and health, work design, attention, and performance. Most recent psychological studies on advanced technologies such as virtual reality and three-dimensional displays will be introduced. Students will also learn from site visits how such designs are implemented in real settings.

Assessment: 80% assessment, 20% examination.

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**PSYC0033. Industrial psychology (6 credits)**

This course surveys the application of psychological principles and methods to the analysis of the complex relationships that exist between people and their work. Topics include job analysis, personnel selection, personnel training, vocational guidance, work evaluation, occupational stress, and errors.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0034. Introduction to clinical psychology (6 credits)**

This course will provide a broad exposure to both theory and practice in clinical psychology. It is a foundation course in mental health, counselling and other psychological services. Also it will provide the information and understanding required to make informed decisions about how to cope with the many social problems connected with mental disorders. A wide array of types of mental disorders will be examined. Important themes will be emphasized such as the continuum in behaviour from mental health to mental illness, the diathesis-stress and nature-nurture models and epidemiology.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisites: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002 or PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0035. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)**

This course focuses on how psychological theories are applied to learning, teaching, and facilitation of human growth. The topics include major developmental theories and their application to learning and instruction, learning theories from both behavioral and cognitive traditions, effective teaching methods and practices, learners' individual and group differences, achievement motivation, and assessment. Students will be involved in learning activities that require self-reflection and integration of daily life experience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0036. Special topics in psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an opportunity to study in some depth an area of psychology of interest to students and a staff member alike. Individual topics may have special requirements for eligibility. Students taking this course may select one topic from the list of topics to be announced in the semester immediately prior to that in which they are taken.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002 or PSYC1003.

**PSYC0038. Psychology of language and bilingualism (6 credits)**

A study of the processes involved in language comprehension and production, including the acquisition of a native as well as second language. The cognitive bases of language learning and use, the psychology of reading and reading disabilities, the comparison of psychological aspects of the Chinese language and other languages. Cognitive functions of the bilingual, the bilingual brain, psychological factors in second language learning.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0040. Cross-cultural psychology (6 credits)**

The rationale, scope, and history of cross-cultural psychology. Conceptual issues and research methods. Cultural relativism and the search for universals. The emic-etic distinction. Comparability of test scores across cultures. Non-Western approaches and contributions. Cross-cultural studies in personality, cognition, social behaviour, and psychopathology. Current status, applications, and ethical issues.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0041. Consumer psychology (6 credits)**

This course examines the psychological processes underlying consumer buying behaviour and the cultural and social factors mediating these processes. Consumer behaviour will be studied from four psychological perspectives: motivational, information processing, attitude and attitude change, and decision-making. Students will learn to apply these perspectives to Hong Kong cases through exercises and mini project(s). The course offers both theoretical and practical orientations to marketing and market analysis.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0044. Organizational psychology (6 credits)**

This course surveys the application of psychological principles and methods to the analysis of the complex relationships that exist between people and the social/cultural environment in their work organization. Topics include work motivation, job satisfaction, leadership, group relations, conflicts, organization design, and cross-cultural issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0050. Knowing and acting in everyday life (6 credits)**

This course investigates knowing and acting as an integral process by which we construct our experiences and interact with the world to maintain our well-being. Pragmatic approaches to knowledge ranging from Western empiricism to postmodern constructionism. Taoism and Buddhism are introduced. Students are encouraged to practice what they have learned by becoming more aware of their own acts of knowing and their consequences in everyday life. Projects and tutorial discussions are designed to aid this practice.

**PSYC0051. Perception (6 credits)**

An introduction to sensation and perception, with an emphasis on the psychology of seeing. Specific topics include the following: examination of the functional properties of sensory systems (e.g., auditory system, color vision, vestibular system, touch and kinaesthesia); phenomenology of sensation and perception; psychophysical limits of perceptual systems; goals of sensory coding; structure and evolution of sensory systems; theories of perception. Perceptual experiments will be conducted by students in laboratory classes.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001 or PSYC1002.

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**PSYC0052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an in-depth examination of two classic questions in personality and social psychology: What is social about social psychology? and Where is the person in personality psychology? By integrating research findings from experimental psychology, individual differences psychology and social psychology, this course seeks an integrative understanding of how an individual behaves in a social context. Topics include: person-situation interactions; interpersonal perception; stereotyping; intergroup dynamics; achievement motivation; psychology of the self; language use and interpersonal processes; cultural influences on cognition and behaviour.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003; and PSYC0020.

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**PSYC0053. Advanced research in industrial/organizational psychology (6 credits)**

This research-based course focuses on specific topics in industrial/organizational psychology that are pertinent to the latest economic development in Hong Kong and in the Greater China Region. Psychometric assessment of various job attitudes, aptitudes, and work-related personality will be one such topic. Students will develop their knowledge and hands-on skills in selected areas covered in the introductory courses of Industrial Psychology and Organizational Psychology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC0033 or PSYC0044.

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**PSYC0054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)**

This course introduces to you the basic principles of *Neuropsychology*. The objectives of the course are: (1) to introduce basic concepts of neurophysiology and functional neuroanatomy, (2) to review models describing different cognitive functions discussed in this course, and (3) to introduce the concept of brain-behavior connection via reviewing the neuro-anatomical and neuropsychological mechanisms underlying some common brain disorders.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003.

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**PSYC0055. Research internship in psychology I (3 credits)**

Students will have an opportunity to learn to do research as an intern in ongoing empirical research projects under a teacher's supervision in the Department of Psychology. The internship includes participating in lab meetings or meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report. Information about research projects offering internship placements and application procedure will be available in the Psychology Department webpage. Internship I and II can be done with the same supervisor or two different supervisors.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**PSYC0056. Research internship in psychology II (3 credits)**

Please refer to Research internship in psychology I for the course description. Internship I and II can be done with the same supervisor or two different supervisors.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**PSYC0057. Internship in applied child development (6 credits)**

The internship will provide first-hand experience working with young children as teachers' aides and opportunities for observing children. In addition, you are to enroll concurrently in a seminar programme focusing on your ongoing field experiences, Educational/Social/Legal Policy, and Advocacy.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC0009 and EDUC8001 and EDUC8002.

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**PSYC0058. Cultural psychology (6 credits)**

The course will survey research topics concerning how psychological processes influence culture and vice versa. Classes will be conducted in a seminar format in which students will actively participate in discussions of the topic of the week. One day before each class, each student will turn in no more than three discussion questions pertaining to the assigned readings and the class will be organized around the questions and issues raised by the students. Questions will be graded for thoughtfulness and insightfulness. To encourage independent thinking, students will write a review paper, which will then form the basis for a research proposal. For students to fully benefit from the course, some prior knowledge is needed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003; and PSYC0020.

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**PSYC3001. Thesis in psychology (6 credits)**

(For psychology major) An empirical investigation of a psychological problem. The study should be complete in itself; for example it may consist of the replication of a study done elsewhere in order to throw further light on the discussion by bringing in material which is available because of the particular situation in Hong Kong; or a basic investigation of a social or experimental phenomenon which has attracted the attention of the investigator. Weekly lectures will cover theoretical and practical issues in planning, conducting, reporting, and evaluating research in psychology. Thesis research will be supervised individually by teaching members of the Department. Eligible students will be invited by the Department to apply for admissions into this course. Approval by Departmental Head is required for admissions into this course.

Prerequisite: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003; and PSYC0001.

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**PSYC3002. Advanced research methods in psychology (6 credits)**

Weekly lectures will cover theoretical and practical issues in planning, conducting, reporting, and evaluating research in psychology. Students will each do an independent empirical research project; weekly tutorial attendance for research supervision is required. Approval by Departmental Head is required for admissions into this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: either PSYC1001 or both PSYC1002 and PSYC1003; and PSYC0001.



**Department of Social Work and Social Administration**

Unless otherwise specified, the examination for each 6-credit course consists of a two-hour written examination paper. The final grading will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in the ratio of 60:40. Teachers concerned will announce at the beginning of each semester the assessment ratio for courses not assessed in the 60:40 examination/coursework ratio.

**Semesters III to VI****SOWK0002. Working with children and families (6 credits)**

This course adopts a developmental perspective in understanding children. Common behaviour problems in children (such as emotional manifestation, oppositional behaviour, conduct disorder, school problems) will be addressed. The principles and procedures of particular intervention theories relevant to the Hong Kong situation will be examined.

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**SOWK0007. Working with families (6 credits)**

This course will examine the concept of a 'family perspective' and assist students in gaining an understanding of the major approaches to working with families. Theories on family, methods of assessment, and a range of strategies and techniques for effective intervention with the family as well as their applicability to the local context will be considered.

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**SOWK0009. Issues and interventions in mental health settings (6 credits)**

This course aims to enhance the students' basic understanding of mental illness by focusing on alternative definitions of mental illness, cross-cultural considerations, etiology, and interventive strategies. The diversity of roles of the professionals in team work with the mentally ill within the Hong Kong context will also be examined.

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**SOWK0011. Issues in health care and rehabilitation settings (6 credits)**

This course gives students a basic understanding of the relationship between health, handicap and rehabilitation, public acceptance and social stigma, so as to enable the students to work more effectively in health care and rehabilitation settings.

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**SOWK0012. Social welfare in China (6 credits)**

The course explores the philosophies, organization, techniques and development of social welfare provision in China. The work of the service organizations such as Civil Affairs Bureau, Street Offices, Unions, Federation of Women, and Communist Youth League would be studied. Issues of social security, youth policy, women status, child care, the care of the elderly people, the physically and mentally handicapped and professional training would be discussed.

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**SOWK0013. Social work practice with selected target groups or in specific settings (6 credits)**

This course will focus on the practice of social work with selected target groups such as children, youth and delinquents, alcoholics and drug addicts, or in specific settings such as school, hospital, youth centres and correctional facilities. For each group or setting, attention will be focused on gaining a comprehensive understanding of the nature of the problems encountered and the role of social work in solving such problems.

**SOWK0014. Health administration (6 credits)**

The theme of this course will be the importance of taking into account the cultural, economic, social and physical environments when examining matters to do with the provision of health care. The aim will be to introduce students to the issues of planning and priorities, financing and resource allocation, management principles, arguments concerning quality versus quantity, community health and public education as they relate to health administration.

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**SOWK0020. Oncology, palliative and hospice care (6 credits)**

Professionals in the field of medical and health settings are expected to be competent in oncology care, palliative and hospice care. The students will learn about the medical, psychological, social, spiritual and policy aspects of care for cancer patients and persons with terminal illness. Cultural, sociological and traditional approaches to death and dying as well as bereavement will be explored through student projects.

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**SOWK0023. Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

The course will examine the issues of social policy in Hong Kong including privatization of welfare services, the impact of ideology of welfare on welfare development in Hong Kong, the issue of equity and equality in welfare provision, community care and service needs of the new arrivals from the mainland. Different theories of welfare will be discussed in relation to local welfare issues.

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**SOWK0028. Selected topics in social work practice (6 credits)**

The course aims at developing knowledge and skills relevant to the understanding and helping of focused target populations, the selection of which will be based on the special nature of specific client groups, problem areas or service settings.

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**SOWK0029. Comparative social administration (6 credits)**

The course is designed to introduce the comparative study of social policy in selected countries in the world, and to examine the provision of social development programmes and social services for analysis and evaluation in cross-country case studies.

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**SOWK0030. Law and social administration (6 credits)**

The course covers two areas: (a) 'Professional Law': human service workers and lawyers, different approaches to the same problem, probation officers, social workers and the courts, children and the law, care and supervision, compulsory measures, adoption law and procedure; the mentally ill and the handicapped; and (b) General Legal Studies: an outline of the legal system and the administration of law in Hong Kong; Family Law; marriage, divorce, maintenance, rights in the matrimonial home; Housing: homelessness and the law, landlord and tenant (private sector and public sector), housing and public health law and practice; legal aid and legal advice schemes in Hong Kong.

**SOWK0033. Working with youth at risk and juvenile offenders (6 credits)**

This course will focus on the various approaches in working with delinquents and young people experiencing emotional or behavioural problems. To facilitate skills development, emphasis will be placed on experiential learning through the use of simulated exercises, games and role-play. Throughout the course, case and group examples will be drawn from a variety of local practice settings-probation, residential facilities for juvenile offenders, correctional services, outreach and school social work.

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**SOWK0034. Youth crime and juvenile justice issues (6 credits)**

This course will begin with a critical review of the current state of theory and research on youth problems and delinquency. It will then go on to evaluate existing policies and services directed at youth at risk and juvenile offenders in Hong Kong. Finally it will explore current issues in the field of youth policy and juvenile justice, particularly the overseas development of new programme initiatives. Special emphasis will be given to the relevance of these issues and programmes within the Hong Kong context.

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**SOWK0037. Human sexuality (6 credits)**

This course tells you everything you always want to know about sex but are too afraid to ask: Whom you want to have sex with and why? What would you do in sex and where and when would you do it? Who's on your mind when you think about sex, Leon Lai or Shu Kei? Which is more pleasurable, heterosexual sex or homosexual sex? What is the best sex that you've ever had? Why are having sex with yourself and masturbation acts of revolution? What is pornography – a stimulant to or substitute for sex? Who has a better claim to authority on sex, your family doctor, your lecturer, the host of a radio phone-in program on sex or a sex worker in the street?

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**SOWK0044. Medical knowledge for social sciences students (3 credits)**

Chronic illness, pain, accidents, and terminal illness are a major source of stress in contemporary society. It is important for students to be knowledgeable about the human body and its common illnesses. The objectives of this course include: to familiarize students with the disease patterns in Hong Kong, to study common diseases which present major health hazards, and to acquire a basic understanding of the medical language. No prior knowledge in medicine is required. A basic understanding of human biology will be an advantage.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0046. Socio-cultural context of aging (6 credits)**

The aging experience and age-related changes in physical, mental, and social functioning vary across different cultures and societies. This course examines the psychological, environmental, and societal factors accompanying and shaping the process of aging with a special emphasis on examining the Chinese and Western cultures. Specifically, the course focuses on how unique aspects of a particular culture or society determine physical, mental and social well-being in old people. Normal and pathological changes in physical, mental, and social functioning associated with aging will be examined, and the implications of such factors as ageism, economic deprivation, exits from social roles, and being widow, and for the well-being of older adults will be addressed. The roles of family caregivers and human service providers, in the enhancement of the well-being of the elderly will also be explored.

**SOWK0050. Government and politics of social services in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course explores the evolution of social policy in Hong Kong. Alternative approaches to understanding the political, economic, and social dynamics that influence social policy and the implications of these dynamics for social reform will be considered. The formation of political responses to human problems and the impact of such responses on social policy will be discussed with reference to the constitution, the legislature, the Chief Executive and the Executive Council, political parties, pressure groups and the electoral system.

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**SOWK0051. Information and communication technology in human services (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the utilization of information and communication technology in human service settings. The major areas are (a) a review of the trends in the human service agencies' use of information and communication technology; (b) an exploration of software frequently used in the human services; and (c) the ethics of IT usage in the human services.

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**SOWK0053. Evaluation of social services (6 credits)**

This course will introduce students to a variety of approaches used to evaluate social services. Students will learn how evaluation techniques can help social service personnel respond to the growing demand for accountability, given that appropriate measures have been taken to collect and analyze data in order to inform decision making. These techniques include: evaluability assessment, designing goals and objectives, choosing an evaluation approach and developing process and outcome measures. Through the course materials, students come to understand the necessity of grounding evaluation approaches within an organization context and the practical issues that arise while implementing an evaluation and using evaluation results.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0054. Gender and society – a policy perspective (6 credits)**

Men and women's experience of the social world is significantly different but gender as a social construct is frequently overlooked both in academic discourse and in policy planning arenas. Gender effects are clear in health, education, employment, housing, social security provision, political activity and family (both in terms of private relations and family policy). This course will examine the different theories of gender discrimination, the consequent effects on social, economic and political life and attempt to answer the question 'what is to be done about it?'

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**SOWK0055. Management in human service organizations (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to enable students to understand the recent business-oriented reforms in human service organizations. Human service organizations provide welfare, education and medical services to their users. The dynamics of quality improvements, strategic planning, monitoring and control, management information system, performance appraisal, supervision, stress management, teamwork, financial management and change are included.

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**SOWK0057. Aging and society (6 credits)**

This course is to study the ways in which social and cultural factors enter into the aging process. The practical and immediate effects of aging on society are examined. The course provides a

comprehensive description of the dimensions of aging. The goal is to provide a holistic view of aging and to point to the ways in which the personal, social and structural levels of the process interact to shape the daily life of the elderly. With these understandings, the ways to deliver appropriate services to the elderly are discussed.

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**SOWK0058. Managing people in human services (6 credits)**

This course introduces concepts for the understanding of organization behaviour and emphasizes on the application of these concepts and the skills in managing people in non-profit making organizations. This course is particularly suitable for students who have not taken any management courses before but will be soon required to take up people management responsibility as a team leader or supervisor in the course of their own professional career development. The topics will include basic concepts on management functions, purposes of a managerial position and the roles of a manager; and skills in managing subordinates including motivation, morale, leadership, coaching, performance management and disciplinary actions.

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**SOWK0060. Career skills training (6 credits)**

Success in one's career is one of the most important life tasks for most people. Besides teaching students the necessary knowledge and practice of core career skills, this course also trains students to design and conduct career skills programmes. Through participation in this course, students will be able to master the theories and skills of career planning, understand the relationship between labour market dynamics and job searching, analyse the effect of social, economic and political changes on the job market. Through understanding the social psychology of career aspects, students will become more sensitive to human dynamics in the work setting.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0061. Financial development and management for social service organizations (6 credits)**

This course introduces and examines concepts and practices critical to good financial management of social service organizations. The focus is on preparing students to understand the financial activities and reports essential to management and to analyze and use financial information in planning, budgeting and measuring results to promote the organization's mission and goals. Fund-raising will also be discussed.

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**SOWK0062. Special topics in policy study (6 credits)**

Any special topics in policy study that reflect current topical and changing needs in the community.

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**SOWK0063. Special topics in administrative study (6 credits)**

Any special topics in administrative study that reflect current topical and changing needs in the community.

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**SOWK0064. Special topics in research study (6 credits)**

Any special topics in research study that reflect current topical and changing needs in the community.

**SOWK0065. Understanding and working with young people (6 credits)**

This course examines the developmental characteristics and needs of young people and their actualization in the local context. Special focus is put on understanding the contemporary local youth culture and how it reveals the needs of the young people. Major models and concepts in youth work are introduced. Working skills with young people implied from these models and concepts are also introduced. This course is especially suitable for students who intend to join the fields that work with young people, e.g. social work, teaching, church, entertainment, etc.

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**SOWK0066. Care management (6 credits)**

Care management is a major practice strategy to promote effective service delivery to diverse target populations. It is based on the notion that human service practitioners often work with people who have multiple needs. The major outcomes of care management are better integration of services provided by a cluster of organizations and community of care. This course covers the role of care management in the human services; the method and functions of care management in both direct and indirect services; and the monitoring and evaluation functions of care management practice.

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**SOWK0068. Social skills training for human service personnel (6 credits)**

This course will consider the theoretical foundation of social skills training. The relevance of social skills training to different areas of human service practice including teamwork and staff training will be discussed. Skills in working with individuals and groups in human service settings will be practiced. The course will be run in form of lectures, demonstrations, class discussion and exercises. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0069. Counselling in health care settings (6 credits)**

Counselling approaches used in health care such as crisis intervention, grief work, cognitive behavioral intervention, support groups, art therapy, psycho-education skills, bereavement counselling, pastoral care and peer counselling will be examined. Students will be provided with experiential training on skills/ techniques in working with patients in hospitals and in the community.

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**SOWK0071. Religions and superstitions in everyday life (6 credits)**

Using a social psychological framework, the course examines practices commonly observed in Hong Kong and elsewhere, such as church going, the worshipping of gods at home, in the street and in temples, visits to shamans and ceremonies concerned with the dead. These practices are then placed in the wider framework of beliefs and knowledge about the world and about ourselves. The growth and development of belief and knowledge in the individual and in society is explored, in an attempt to understand why people do what they do. All of it leads inevitably to a discussion of science and religion in its historical and current perspectives.

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**SOWK0074. Teachers as counsellors (6 credits)**

As many students might join the teaching profession when they graduate, a purpose of this course is to help course participants understand the developmental characteristics, needs and struggles of students (children and adolescents). To understand the counselling process and acquire necessary skills in offering counselling to students are also main focuses of this course. It is expected that through the course, participants can be more equipped to be effective helpers in working with students to cope with their school life.

**SOWK0075. Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)**

The issue of violence in intimate relationships (e.g. domestic violence & violence in dating) is examined through multi-lenses. The course introduces the nature of the different kinds of violence in intimate relationships. The knowledge and skills necessary to understand the dynamics of different kinds of violence are taught. How to assess the violent issues, how to identify appropriate intervention strategies and how to apply the related skills in the working situation are introduced. Particular emphasis is given to the relationship between violence and gender issues.

Assessment: 30% readings and participation, 70% term paper.

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**SOWK0076. New age health care in community (6 credits)**

An innovative course aims at promoting holistic health care concepts and intervention models in local context. Topics include: cultural concepts on health and illness, Chinese help-seeking behaviors; concepts on psychosocial needs and intervention, total patient care, team work in health care setting; gender perspectives and health care: working with powerless women and couples; working with sick children and families; community rehabilitation, self-help movement and patient's rights; geriatric health care, care-giver supports; grief and bereavement, death and hospice care; working with individuals/casework approach; expressive art and group approach; use of emotional healing skills, alternative medicine approaches; research agenda and methods in health care setting.

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**SOWK0077. International perspective in human services (6 credits)**

This course is a joint venture with universities from other parts of the world. The objective of the course is to promote cultural exchanges and appreciation of diversity. The course is designed to provide a forum for discussion and interaction among students from different races and cultural backgrounds. Students will be visiting other participating universities or vice versa. It is expected that through the joint projects which will be developed during the course, students will gain better awareness of how each culture is constrained or aided by their values, beliefs, norms, and attitudes.

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**SOWK0084. Theoretical foundations in social policy and planning (6 credits)**

This course is designed to examine various models for the analysis of social policy, as well as basic concepts of social planning, programme design and implementation. Selected social policy issues in Hong Kong will be critically analyzed to further the understanding of the factors contributing to the development of social service provision systems to deal with these issues.

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**SOWK0085. Social service research I: methodology (6 credits)**

This course is designed to provide a basic grounding in research methodology and to illustrate the major concepts, methods and goals of social service research.

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**SOWK0086. Social service research II: analysis and utilization (6 credits)**

The objective of this course is to enable students to apply and interpret various methods in data analysis, as well as to enable them to critically analyze research reports and make intelligent use of research findings in social policy planning and administration.

Prerequisite: SOWK0085.

**SOWK0087. Social service research project (6 credits)**

In this course, students are going to conduct a selected group research project of their interest. Under the guidance of the teacher, students can learn and experience the whole research process including: defining research objectives, identifying research questions, designing research methodology and instrumentation, collecting data, analysing data, writing up research report and disseminating the research results.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0088. Body politics (6 credits)**

Are you forever on diet or frantically toning up your muscles? Are you attracted to tattoo, piercing, breast transplant or other forms of body manipulation? Do you dye your hair, keep it long or shave it clean? Do you desire a body like yours or of the other sex? How private is your body? Did your parents ever beat you up to quiet you down? Do you detest torture while admiring extreme sporters? If you believe in body language, do you know when your body is silenced? Does a handicapped, deformed or ageing body disturb you? And a corpse? Who has control over your body: your family, your lover, your doctor, or the Government? This course provides students with insights in the meaning of body as an object of inquiry. If a body is a playground providing us with sensational pleasures, it is also a battlefield where forces of domination are constantly at war. The complex ways in which our bodies are manipulated, abused and used as source of power will be explored. Guided by a diversity of classical and contemporary perspectives, this course helps you search your soul by getting inside your body.

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**SOWK0089. Family and society – a policy perspective (6 credits)**

This course will study the changing functions of the family system as the most fundamental caring unit in society. Policies affecting the family system, its relation with other social institutions, and measures necessary to strengthen its roles will be discussed.

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**SOWK0091. Current welfare issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

The format of this course is problem-based. Students and Course Instructor together identify the current welfare issues (CWIs) at the beginning of the term. For each CWI, the Course Instructor assists the students to identify the learning objectives, locate the relevant learning material, develop understanding in the areas identified, and construct the learning experience. Areas of learning may extend beyond the subject of social welfare to cover economics, politics, public finance, public administration, social psychology, sociology, management. In the first term, the Policy Address of the Chief Executive of the SAR Government may be chosen as one of the CWIs. In the second term, the Budget of the SAR Government for 2000-2001 may be chosen.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK0092. Adventure-Based Counselling: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Adventure-Based Counselling (ABC) is a popular contemporary approach employed to work with people in order to assist their building and/or promoting of a positive self-concept, improve their interpersonal relationship and enhance their problem-solving abilities. Although it is especially popular among working with young people, it can also be used in working with different age groups, families and couples. This course aims to introduce the basic theories and practices of ABC and to provide training in some micro skills in conducting ABC sessions. The quality of an ABC facilitator and the ethical considerations in employing ABC to work with people will be discussed in the course. The format of the course includes lectures, seminars and ABC workshops for students to participate and experience the process.



**SOWK0093. Generation Y: youth (sub) cultures (6 credits)**

This course explores various youth (sub)cultures, and will be organized around the following topics: (1) body and beauty; (2) club cultures and drugs; (3) sex and the cyber-space; (4) popular and indie music. This course focuses on the insiders' perspective, i.e. the ways in which young people actually experience and make sense of their own activities, while sensitizing students to the historical specificity of the construction of youth as a social category and the politics of representation.

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**SOWK0094. Human service development, promotion, and evaluation (6 credits)**

As the society increasingly emphasizes accountability of human services, the organizations providing such services have to develop, improve and deliver these services in a more cost-effective and cost-efficient way to satisfy the changing needs of the citizens. This course examines the roles of social marketing and market research in the human services through application of the principles and practices learned. This course provides students with some essentials, values, knowledge and skills in human service development, promotion, distribution and evaluation. The students will have the opportunity to develop and apply decision-making and analytical skills relevant to the functions of social marketing and market research within the human service.

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**SOWK0096. Policy provisions for income protection (6 credits)**

This course will discuss the concept of social security, its historical development, and functions in society. Students will be introduced to the planning, financing and administration of the social security systems as they are operated in Hong Kong and elsewhere.

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**SOWK0097. Information technology and society (6 credits)**

This course examines the various issues related to the impact of the development of information and communication technology on modern society. Such issues range from family and interpersonal relationship, organizational changes, social organization, digital divide and politics. Relevant theories, researches, social interventions and social policy will be covered in this semester course.

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**SOWK2008. Human behaviour and the social environment (II) (6 credits)**

This course studies a spectrum of disturbed behaviours, from concepts of normality, abnormality, classification and assessment, to the clinical syndromes: neuroses, psychoses, personality disorders, psycho-physiologic disorders, organic brain syndromes, and mental retardation; sociopathy, sexual deviations and drug abuses; and behavioural disorders of childhood and adolescence.

Prerequisites: SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I) or a equivalent course in the area of developmental psychology.

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**SOWK3005. Field practicum/project report (12 credits)**

Students may choose to write a project report on a topic of their own choice. The project report should be between 6,000 and 7,000 words in length and should demonstrate the application of some of the knowledge and skills in social administration.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: SOWK0084, SOWK0085 and SOWK0086.

**Department of Sociology**

Prerequisites requirements may be specified in some courses. In exceptional cases these may be waived by the Head of the Department.

The senior level courses are listed below. Not all the courses listed will necessarily be offered every year.

The final grading for each course will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in a ratio of 40% coursework, 60% examination, unless otherwise specified.

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**Semesters III to VI****SOCI0001. A history of social theory (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development of sociological thought in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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**SOCI0002. Class, wealth and poverty: inequality and injustice in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course deals with the phenomenon of social inequality. It will cover topics such as theoretical explanations of this phenomenon; the methodological problems involved; different types of social stratification including caste, class, gender and ethnicity; the consequences of stratification on life chances and life styles; and social mobility. A comparative approach will be adopted.

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**SOCI0003. Contemporary Chinese society (6 credits)**

This course attempts to analyse the social system in the People's Republic of China. Sociological explanations of the Chinese Communist Revolution, the process of social reintegration through ideology and organization, the socialist path to modernization, and continuities and discontinuities with social patterns in the past will be discussed.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0052 recommended.

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**SOCI0005. Criminal behaviour (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the psychology of criminal conduct and social psychological explanations of individual and group offending. Topics include: psycho-social theories of criminal behaviour; mental disorder and crime; sexual and dangerous offenders; therapeutic communities; forensic psychology; serial offenders; and issues in ethics, treatment and intervention.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0071 recommended.

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**SOCI0006. Critical issues in media studies (6 credits)**

This course addresses the issues related to the construction of reality by the media. In recent years, the media have been subject to various criticisms, including negative reporting, tabloid journalism, and ideological biases. These criticisms will be reviewed with particular focus on the extent to which the media can provide an objective and fair representation of reality.

**SOCI0007. Cultural studies: themes and perspectives (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to theories, methods and studies of contemporary culture. Topics include: the problem of cultural creation under capitalism; the impact of the mass media on children; popular stars and their fans; women's magazines and the issue of sexism; the consumption behaviour of young people; modernism and post-modernism.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0019 and SOCI0015 recommended.

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**SOCI0008. Culture and society (6 credits)**

This course will introduce some of the central concerns of cultural and social anthropology (culture and human nature; the components of culture; the diversity of human cultures and societies; culture and social behaviour; social change) through a study of the theoretical concerns and empirical fieldwork of selected social and cultural anthropologists of the twentieth century.

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**SOCI0009. Economic development and social change (6 credits)**

This course will be concerned with the dynamics and consequences of economic transformation in the developing world, with a particular focus on industrialization in East Asia. We will begin with a brief survey of some of the general theoretical frameworks that have been used to explain development in East Asia, as elsewhere, before moving on to examine particular societies and thematic issues in the light of these general frameworks. The societies to which most attention will be paid will be Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. The thematic issues to be addressed will include the transformative significance of historical conjunctures, free markets, foreign investment, economic cultures and state policy.

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**SOCI0010. Education and teaching (6 credits)**

Formal educational institutions in society will be examined, using the major concepts and theories of sociology. Emphasis is placed on the relationship between education and other important social institutions such as the family, the polity, and the economy. The questions of equality of educational opportunity and the potential role of education in fostering social change will also be analysed. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**SOCI0011. Gender and crime (6 credits)**

Women who engage in illegal activities typically acquire a 'double deviant status'; they are perceived to be violating legal codes as well as gender proscriptions. Women offenders are not simply the shoplifter or the cocaine addict, but the 'fallen woman', the 'wicked temptress', and the 'immoral mother'. Such views about women offenders have been the basis for their differential treatment under the law and in punishment systems. The purpose of this course is to critically assess these assumptions and the gendered ways of social control policies.

The course is organized into three main sections. The first part of the course will examine the 'facts' on female offenders and theoretical explanations for female delinquency and crime. The next section focuses on women as crime victims, particularly in sexual assaults and domestic violence. The last section of the course traces and compares the development of social control policies (as expressed in the law, the criminal justice system, and corrections) aimed specifically at women offenders in several countries.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0071 recommended.

**SOCI0012. Gender and society (6 credits)**

This course will focus on the social construction of gender and the patterns of inequality that result from this process. Themes to be examined are: biology and destiny; social definitions of masculinity and femininity; sex role socialization; consequences of gender differentiation; theoretical perspectives. In addition, the contribution that social theory has to make to the question of the origins of sex inequalities will also be examined.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**SOCI0013. Gender in Chinese societies (6 credits)**

This course focuses on gender issues in Chinese societies: how women and men live out their lives in history and at present in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and other overseas Chinese communities. It also compares gender issues in Chinese and Western societies, as well as in different Chinese communities. Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0012, SOCI0011, SOCI0052 and SOCI0003 recommended.

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**SOCI0014. Globalization, work and industry (6 credits)**

This course provides a historical perspective on the transformations in the nature of work during the twentieth century through a focus on changes in corporate organization, technology and production systems, and managerial ideology and practices. It also deals with the impact on the nature and meaning of work of such contemporary developments as new production concepts, the flexible firm, the shift from industrial relations to human resource management and the globalization of production. Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0015. Hong Kong popular culture (6 credits)**

This course examines the major research landmarks in the study of popular culture in modern societies. The theoretical and methodological issues raised will serve as a guide for a series of workshops and field projects which investigate the history, nature and social significance of popular culture in Hong Kong.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0043 recommended.

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**SOCI0016. Hong Kong society (6 credits)**

An appraisal of the sociological research that has been done and the further research that needs to be done on Hong Kong society, covering such topics as: demographic structures and processes; kinship, marriage and family; the sociology of economic life; the polity; social stratification; systems of knowledge and belief; the mass media.

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**SOCI0017. Japanese economic institutions (6 credits)**

This course will focus on Japanese economic organizations and the ways they are influenced by Japanese culture and political and social structures. The topics covered include: development of the large corporation, management structures and styles, education and the employment system, the organization of work on the shop-floor, trade unions and industrial conflict, characteristics of small firms, inter-enterprise cooperation and competition, the role of industry associations, business and the state, Japanese enterprises abroad.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0018 recommended.

**SOCI0018. Japanese society (6 credits)**

This course focuses on some salient features of Japanese culture and society. The topics covered in the course are: the nature of Japanese society, culture and national character, family and kinship, social stratification, rural and urban communities, and social problems. Emphasis is also given to comparing Japan with other countries, especially China.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0019. Life styles and modern culture (6 credits)**

This course explores the dynamics of modern society by looking at the manifold styles and life in modern culture. It examines questions on what underlies styles, how choices in life are made, and how cultural spaces are closed and created.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0007 and SOCI0015 recommended.

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**SOCI0021. Marriage and the family (6 credits)**

Marriage and the family are viewed comparatively, using historical and cross-cultural data. Included are the impact of industrialization and urbanization on family life, different forms of family organization and the societal conditions under which they occur, theories of mate selection, recent changes in dating and premarital sexual involvement, parenthood, and marital adjustment.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**SOCI0024. Modern social theory (6 credits)**

This course will be a critical exposition of many of the major trends in modern social theory, linking contemporary movements with older philosophical traditions in an attempt to trace continuities and ruptures in social thought. The course will be concerned with the contributions of behaviourists and social exchange theorists, the efforts of contemporary interactionists and French structuralists, and the post-structuralist enterprise.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0001 recommended.

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**SOCI0027. Politics and society (6 credits)**

This course offers a sociological discussion of political power, political institutions, political processes, and political behaviour.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0028. Population and society (6 credits)**

The quantity and quality of population have profound effects on a society. The number of people who are born, who die and who migrate within or out of a society are results of decisions and actions taken by individuals or families which are in turn affected by local and international events and policies. Changes in the number and in the characteristics of a population also have far-reaching social, economic and political consequences. On the macro-level, this course will examine the inter-relationship between social, economic and political processes, and the demographic processes of fertility, mortality and migration. On the micro-level, it will investigate the mutual effects between actions of individuals and families, and the larger social and demographic processes.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

**SOCI0030. Quantitative sociological analysis (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to basic concepts and techniques in formulating and testing sociological hypotheses. Real data sets, with special reference to Hong Kong, will be analysed.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0033. Research project (6 credits)**

Students taking 48 or more credits on senior level courses in Sociology may undertake a small research project under supervision by a lecturer. Their proposed project must obtain the approval of a potential supervisor prior to enrolment. The project report must be submitted prior to May of the academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% research report.

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**SOCI0035. Selected topics in social and cultural anthropology (6 credits)**

This course will examine the development of theory and empirical research in one or more selected topics in social and cultural anthropology. The topics to be covered will vary from year to year and will be announced before the beginning of the academic year.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0008 recommended.

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**SOCI0036. Social anthropology of Hong Kong and Guangdong (6 credits)**

This course examines the transformation of culture in Hong Kong and compares it with developments in neighbouring Guangdong. It looks at changes in family organization, ritual and popular culture and problems of urban anthropology in Hong Kong.

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**SOCI0038. Social control (6 credits)**

A discussion of the problems of social order and control; basic techniques of social control; control in interpersonal relationship and small groups; the role of ideology and mass media in social control; the uses of conflict in establishing order.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0027 recommended.

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**SOCI0041. Social problems (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to a number of contemporary social problems, social issues, and social concerns. Special emphasis is given to the nature of social problems in Hong Kong.

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**SOCI0042. Social research methods (6 credits)**

The aims of this course are to introduce the basic principles and procedures which form the foundation of social research, to review the main types of research designs and methods of data collection used in social research, and to provide a set of criteria for analysing and evaluating the products of social research. The types of research covered will include participant observation, experimental design, survey methods and documentary analysis. Ethical and political issues in social research will also be discussed.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

**SOCI0043. Sociology of contemporary culture (6 credits)**

This course aims to survey a number of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of contemporary cultural life. Topics covered will include the production and consumption of mass communication products (TV, films, advertisements, fiction, pop music), spectator sports, leisure patterns and subcultural lifestyles.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0044. Sociology of economic life (6 credits)**

This course deals with the relations between the economic and non-economic aspects of social life. Economic attitudes such as achievement motivations and work ethics, economic processes such as innovation and the establishment of business trust, economic roles such as entrepreneurs and managers, and economic organizations such as family firms and corporations will be examined in their sociocultural contexts.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

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**SOCI0046. Sociology of law (6 credits)**

This course examines the interplay between law and society. It has a strong cross-cultural input, combining sociological, anthropological and historical materials. Students will be introduced to sociological theories of law, and to the theory and practice of law in socialist and liberal societies as well as pre-industrial and developing societies. The course therefore covers the customary, common law and codified legal systems and will examine the connection between legal institutions and social values.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**SOCI0047. Sociology of punishment (6 credits)**

This course deals with sociological and criminological theories of punishment. It will examine the historical and social context of punishment and look at the changing form of punishment in society. Students will be introduced to current debates on penal policy and corrections within the criminal justice system.

Assessment: 25% coursework, 75% examination.

Prerequisite: None but SOCI0071 recommended.

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**SOCI0048. Sociology of sexuality (6 credits)**

This course examines how different cultures and sub-cultures construct their own categories of sexual desire, sexual identity, eroticism and sexualities. It covers theories of sexuality, issues in the cultural construction of sexuality, practices of sexual diversity and media representations of sex.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**SOCI0049. The body and society (6 credits)**

This course examines the ways in which the human body embodies the key ideas and cultural assumptions in society. It also looks at how major political, social and personal problems are expressed through the body.

**SOCI0052. Traditional Chinese society (6 credits)**

This course deals with the sociological significance and methodology of the study of the Chinese society. The theme is social integration -- how social order was attained in the late imperial period, and how that order disintegrated after the Western impact. Important institutions such as family and kinship, social stratification and mobility, rural and urban organizations, central and local government, religion and other belief systems will be discussed.

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**SOCI0053. Youth and youth culture (6 credits)**

This course explores issues such as the discovery of childhood and adolescence, the development and expressions of youth culture in different societies including the United States, Britain, Japan, Canada, as well as youth cultures in Hong Kong.

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**SOCI0054. Triads and organized crime (6 credits)**

In Hong Kong, Triads are known to have been long involved in the illegal businesses of drugs, gambling, prostitution, loan sharking, debt collecting and smuggling. Triads are also notorious for organized extortion from legitimate businesses, such as the entertainment industry, street hawking, wholesale markets and minibus services, interior decoration business, the trading of properties, and the film industry. Since Hong Kong Triads are believed to be increasingly active in drug trafficking, human smuggling, and economic organized crime such as credit card fraud, counterfeiting, and money laundering, Western police foresee that Hong Kong Triads are replacing the Italian Mafia as the most powerful criminal organization in the world in the next century. Are these contentions correct? In order to understand what Triads exactly do in different kinds of organized crime, this course is specifically designed to analyse the role of Hong Kong Triads in legal, illegal, and international markets.

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**SOCI0055. A cultural study of tourism and tourists (6 credits)**

The phenomenal growth of tourism in contemporary societies is of major social and cultural significance. This course introduces students to a cultural study of tourism viewed as a complex social phenomenon connected with social and cultural dynamics. Special attention will be given to Asian and Chinese experiences, not only as guest societies, but also host societies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOCI0056. Criminal justice: policy and practice (6 credits)**

This course primarily aims to familiarize students with the idea that criminal justice can be viewed as a system consisting of interaction between three main components: police, courts, and corrections. Criminal investigation, arrest, prosecution, trial, conviction, sentence, incarceration, and community supervision will be examined. Attention will also be given to the formation and implementation of criminal justice policy. Students will be afforded the opportunity to explore a number of criminal justice systems found in other parts of the world but special attention will be devoted to the Hong Kong criminal justice system.

Prerequisite: None, but SOCI0071 recommended.

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**SOCI0060. Fraud, corruption and computer crime (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of crimes committed by white-collar people such as businessmen, government officials, politicians, technicians and professionals. It examines in depth three major types of white-collar crimes: fraud, corruption and computer crime.



**SOCI0061. Life styles and religious practices (6 credits)**

In response to the highly stressful modern urban environment, there has been a movement towards alternative life style practices that are closely connected to various forms of religious practices. This course explores the reasons for the attractions of these religious practices, how they influence urban life styles, and why individuals and groups are attracted to the movements.

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**SOCI0062. Media development and cultural change in contemporary China (6 credits)**

Economic reform and the rapid improvement of living standards have transformed the social and cultural landscape of contemporary China dramatically. This course introduces students to change in these areas since 1979. It focuses in particular on the rapid development of mass media and the emergence of a consumer culture.

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**SOCI0063. Multicultural societies and modern identities (6 credits)**

This course explores how individuals and groups, through the use of traditional and modern cultural idioms, attempt to negotiate, adapt and create their own identities in modern multicultural societies. Topics to be covered may include multiculturalism and the modern nation state; local, ethnic and global identities; religion and violence; popular culture and modern values; food and identity and intercultural romance, marriage and family. Videos and films will be used as teaching materials.

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**SOCI0064. Globalization and the information society: myths, facts and emerging patterns (6 credits)**

This course will draw upon the most recent social research and undertake a critical examination of the ideas of globalization and information society. Three main areas will be covered: the nature of the knowledge-based informational economy, the ideas of risk, trust, and other economic-sociological aspects of e-business, and the transformations of work and non-work relationships as well as our experiences of time and space in the information age.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOCI0065. Understanding media studies (6 credits)**

This course provides an analysis of the nature, development and impact of communication media in society. It introduces students to the approaches for understanding the role of mass media in society. It also examines a number of substantive issues concerning the actual functioning of modern communication media. Topics covered will include: changing technologies of communication, the ideology, ownership and control of modern media, ideals and practices of journalism, the uniqueness of different media forms like television, cinema, print and the internet, the political impact of media, the social impact of new communication technologies, the regulation of and access to broadcasting, and the globalization of communication media.

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**SOCI0066. The Asian economic miracles and beyond (6 credits)**

This course will examine the Asian economic miracles from the economic, social, and political angles. First, it will analyze the making of the economic miracles by exploring the roles of government policies, family and related social institutions, as well as the global political-economic forces. The relationships between these factors and the 1997 financial crisis will also be examined. Second, the course will look

at the impacts of economic development on alleviating income and other forms of social-cultural inequality. Finally, it will address the complex interactions between economic development and political democratization. The course will focus on Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan, but it will bring in the experiences of the Mainland China, Japan and other Southeast Asian countries where appropriate.

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### **SOCI0067. Crime and the media (6 credits)**

The media plays an extremely influential role on the public's conceptions of crime and order. This course is designed to look at the different ways in which the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course is divided into two main sections. The first half of the course examines representations of crime in different media forms and theoretical explanations for why crime is portrayed in particular ways. The second half of the course focuses on the representation of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI0068. Religious movements: peace, nationalism and terrorism (6 credits)**

This course examines the emergence of various religious movements in the world today and the psychology of the people involved in these religious movements. It will examine why some religious movements expound on world peace while others advocate religious nationalism and religious terrorism. It will answer the question: "why are the religious fanatics willing to sacrifice themselves and others in the name of religion", "are we living in a religiously dangerous world today?"

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **SOCI0069. Perspectives on crime and deviance (6 credits)**

Building on the introductory course, the course aims to increase both the applied and theoretical aspects of understanding the causes of particular crimes and the remedies deployed to minimize their impact on individuals and society. Topics covered include violent and sex crimes, property crimes, illegal drug use, organized and elite crime, corruption and new crime (e.g. environmental, consumer and computer crime). The second half of the course examines topics in the administration of justice by focusing on the adjudicative process and the role of punishment including: the general rules of evidence; the principles and law of sentencing; and the efficacy and ethics of offender treatment and punishment. Related topics may include issues such as: police and judicial discretion; the sociology of prisons; community and intermediate punishments.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

Prerequisite: SOCI0071.

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### **SOCI0070. Chinese identities and global networks (6 credits)**

This course will explore the changing experiences and identities of Chinese in a globalizing world. It will examine the formation of Chinese communities and varieties of Chinese identities and representations in various parts of the world. Topics to be discussed include the use of social capital and guanxi networks in their social, economic and political pursuits, their desire to plant new cultural roots in their adopted countries, their sentiments towards their native home villages and ancestral villages in Mainland China, transnational socio-economic linkages and transnational businesses.

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the formation of Chinese identities and representations in a globalizing world as well the significance of transnational linkages across socio-political boundary.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**SOCI0071. Criminology (6 credits)**

This course attempts to provide students with an overview of policy and governance in tourism. It will also provide them with hands-on experience in policy formulation – regarding the creation and interpretation of the issues that are connected to the understanding of cultural tourism. Issues such as ethnicity, the environment, culture and heritage will be studied. Students will be taught to interpret and analysis how tourist gazes are constructed for different types of tourism using the project-based method. Students will also be exposed to social and economic as well as ethical considerations of these creations. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**SOCI0072. Policy, governance and training in cultural tourism (6 credits)**

This course attempts to provide students with an overview of policy and governance in tourism. It will also provide them with hands-on experience in policy formulation and the creation of cultural gazes through the understanding of cultural tourism. Students will be taught how to construct tourist gazes for different types of tourism using the project-based method. Students will also be exposed to social and economic as well as ethical considerations of these creations. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**Special Topic in Sociology**

This course provides an opportunity for students to study in depth an area of sociology of interest to staff and students. Students should consult the Department for information on the content and prerequisites, if any, of the unit on offer. Assessment: to be announced.