

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (GOVERNMENT AND LAWS)  
(BSocSc[Govt&Laws])**

*These regulations apply to students admitted to the BSocSc(Govt&Laws) 4-year '2012 curriculum' in the academic year 2012-13 and thereafter for the award of BSocSc(Govt&Laws) after 4 years of study.*

*(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)*

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**Definitions**

**SSGL1**<sup>1</sup> In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of BSocSc(Govt&Laws), unless the context otherwise requires -

‘Core departments’ means the Departments of Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work and Social Administration, and Sociology.

‘Course’ means a course of study, with a credit value expressed as a number of credit-units as specified in the syllabus.

‘Credits’ means the value assigned to each course to indicate its study load relative to the total study load under a degree curriculum. The study load refers to the hours of student learning activities and experiences, both within and outside the classrooms, and includes contact hours and time spent on assessment tasks and examinations.

‘Pre-requisite’ means a course or a group of courses which candidates must have completed successfully or a requirement which candidates must have fulfilled before being permitted to take the course in question.

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**Admission to the degree**

**SSGL2** To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) complete the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow.
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**Period of study**

**SSGL3** The curriculum shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years.

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<sup>1</sup> This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

## Completion of the curriculum

### SSGL4

- (a) Candidates shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula<sup>2</sup>.
- (b) Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits of courses, unless otherwise required or permitted under the Regulations.
- (c) Candidates shall complete the required number of compulsory and elective courses as prescribed in the syllabuses, including 96 credits of courses for PPA major, 72 credits of Law courses for Legal Studies major<sup>3</sup>, and 24 credits of free electives.
- (d) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies in Social Sciences (Government and Laws), or except in the final semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements may be fewer than 24 credits.
- (e) Candidates may take further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of Studies, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 288 credits for the normative period of study specified in SSGL3, save as provided for under SSGL4(f).
- (f) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of Studies may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 432 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in SSGL3.
- (g) Candidates shall normally enrol in not more than 114 credits of introductory courses.
- (h) Candidates shall not enrol in any introductory courses in the final two years of study (except Common Core courses and CSSC9001 Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students).

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## Selection of courses

**SSGL5** Candidates who wish to change their selection of courses at the beginning of each semester may do so up to 2 weeks after the commencement of the semester. Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall not normally be considered, except for medical or other reasons accepted by the Board of Studies. Candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade.

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## Assessment

**SSGL6** Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework,

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<sup>2</sup> Specific requirements are spelt out in the syllabuses.

<sup>3</sup> The major in legal studies by itself will not constitute any qualification eligible for admission to the PCLL.

written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG8(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

**SSGL7** Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner as prescribed in the curriculum regulations:

- i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
- ii) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
- iii) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
- iv) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

**SSGL8** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading.

**SSGL9** Candidates are permitted or required to present themselves for re-assessment/re-examination / assessment in an alternative course under SSGL7 above. The new grade obtained together with the previous F grade shall be recorded on the transcript and be included in the calculation of the semester GPA, year GPA and the cumulative GPA and shall be taken into account for the purposes of determining eligibility for award of the BSocSc(Govt&Laws) degree, honours classification and whether a candidate be recommended for discontinuation of studies in the Faculty.

**SSGL10** There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

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### **Discontinuation of studies**

**SSGL11** Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:

- i) failed to complete 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
- ii) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester) ; or
- iii) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in SSGL3.

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### **Absence from examination**

**SSGL12** Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall normally be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of

the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

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### **Advanced standing**

**SSGL13** Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully in an approved institution of higher education elsewhere in accordance with UG 2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula but advanced credits will not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

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### **Credit transfer**

**SSGL14** Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of Studies, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

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### **Award of the degree**

**SSGL15** To be eligible for award of the degree of BSocSc(Govt&Laws), candidates shall have:

- (a) achieved a cumulative GPA of 1.00 or above;
- (b) satisfactorily completed a minimum of 240 credits; and
- (c) satisfied the requirements in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

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### **Honours classification**

#### **SSGL16**

- (a) To be eligible for award of the degree of BSocSc(Govt&Laws), candidates shall have successfully completed the curriculum as stipulated under Regulations SSGL4.
- (b) The degree of BSocSc(Govt&Laws) shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, Pass
- (c) The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree in accordance with the following Cumulative GPA scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying equal weighting:

<u>Class of honours</u>	<u>CGPA range</u>
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

- (d) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Cumulative GPA and the Boards of Examiners for the degrees may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Cumulative GPA falls below the range stipulated in SSGL17(c) of the higher classification by not more than 0.05 Grade Point.
- (e) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the requirements of the degrees shall be posted on Faculty notice boards.
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# SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (GOVERNMENT & LAWS)

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## GENERAL FEATURES

### 1. Objectives

This Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) curriculum aims to:

- provide students with basic knowledge and conceptual frameworks of political science and public administration, government operations, international relations and legal systems;
- develop students' ability in critical analysis of complex political and legal issues in the real world;
- equip students with necessary perspectives and skills in identifying and articulating feasible solutions to public issues and legal problems;
- enable students integrate theories and methods of political science and public administration as well as legal studies into interdisciplinary analytical exercises; and
- prepare students to engage in advocacy for social innovation and better governance, and embrace challenges in future careers in the fields of politics, public administration or law

### 2. Curriculum Requirements

The regulations specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for completion of the BSocSc(Govt&Laws) degree curriculum. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses.

Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits including 96 credits of courses for PPA major, 72 credits of courses for Legal Studies major<sup>4</sup> and 24 credits of free electives within the same or another curriculum. They shall enrol in not fewer than 24 and not more than 30 credits of courses for each semester other than the final semester as specified in SSGL4.

#### A. University Requirements (Regulation UG 5)

Candidates should complete all the introductory courses listed below, which include the two language enhancement courses and the Common Core Courses as prescribed in Regulation UG5 "Requirements for Graduation" of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Candidates may enrol in additional courses and the maximum number of credits of introductory courses to be taken is 114.

##### a) Language enhancement courses:

CAES1000 Core University English (6 credits)  
[Candidates with Level 5\*\* in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination will be automatically exempted from this requirement and should take an elective course in lieu.]

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<sup>4</sup> The major in legal studies by itself will not constitute any qualification eligible for admission to the PCLL.

English in the Discipline (6 credits)  
[A pass in both LLAW1013 Legal research and writing I and LLAW2017 Legal research and writing II shall be deemed to satisfy the “English in the Discipline” requirement under UG5(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.]

CSSC9001 Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)

OR

CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society

OR

CUND9003 Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students

[Candidates who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CSSC9001 may apply for exemption and take a credit-bearing Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese, or take an elective course in lieu.]

**b) Common Core Courses:**

Six 6-credit Common Core courses, selecting not more than one course (36 credits) from the same Area of Inquiry within one academic year and at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry during the whole period of study.

(must be completed in Semester I to VI)

**B. Major in Politics and Public Administration**

**a) Introductory courses**

**i) The following from the Department of Politics and Public Administration:**

POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)

(This course must be completed in semester I or II)

**ii) One course from the following core departments: (6 credits)**

Geography

Psychology

Social Work and Social Administration

Sociology

**b) Advanced courses**

**i) Courses offered by the Department of Politics and Public Administration**

Candidates are required to complete not fewer than 72 credits of advanced courses in the third to subsequent semesters of study. This includes the completion of the following compulsory courses:

- Methods requirement: POLI0104. Research methods in politics and public administration in semester III or IV (6 credits)

- Gateway requirement: Two of the following courses in semester III or IV: (12 credits)

- POLI0105. Introduction to comparative politics (6 credits)
  - POLI0106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)
  - POLI0107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)
  - POLI0108. Introduction to public administration (6 credits)
- (students are strongly recommended to complete the relevant gateway course if they wish to concentrate in that specialist stream)
- Capstone requirement: One of the following courses from semesters VII to VIII: (6 credits)
- POLI0092. Research internship in politics and public administration
  - POLI0109. Directed project in politics and public administration

Regarding A.i) and B.i) above, candidates should complete a minimum of 78 credits of courses.

Candidates may wish to concentrate in a specialist stream by completing 24 credits (out of the 72 credits) of advanced courses in a designated stream. For the specialist streams please refer to the Department's handbook. Neither the transcript nor the certificate will note this specialization. Students, if necessary, may approach the Department for a letter of reference for their specialization.

## ii) Faculty of Social Sciences experiential learning courses

Candidates are required to complete 12 credits of off-campus learning under the theme of Social Innovation OR Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. The requirement can be fulfilled by completing one of the following courses or 12 credits of exchange study or overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty.

- FOSS0018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)
- FOSS0019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)
- FOSS0020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)
- POLI0089. Global Studies internship (12 credits)

## C. Major in Legal Studies<sup>5</sup>

### a) Introductory courses

Semester I or II:

- LLAW1013. Legal research and writing I (6 credits)
- LLAW1009. Law and society (6 credits)
- LLAW1008. The Legal system (6 credits)
- LLAW1001. Law of contract I (6 credits)
- LLAW1002. Law of contract II (6 credits)

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<sup>5</sup> The major in legal studies by itself will not constitute any qualification eligible for admission to the PCLL.

Semester III or IV:	
LLAW1005. Law of tort I	(6 credits)
LLAW1006. Law of tort II	(6 credits)
LLAW2017. Legal research and writing II	(6 credits)

**b) Advanced courses**

Semesters III and IV:	
LLAW2001. Constitutional law	(6 credits)
LLAW3093. Administrative law	(6 credits)

Semesters V and VI:	
LLAW3203. Guided research* (Capstone experience)	(6 credits)

Semesters VII and VIII:	
LLAW3001. Introduction to legal theory	(6 credits)

\* or a Law Designated Research Course as approved by the Department of Law

**D. Free Electives** (24 credits)

Semesters V to VIII: 24 credits of advanced free elective courses offered within the same curriculum (both Law and PPA) or another curriculum offered by other faculties/departments/centers.

**3. Course Registration**

Course registration will take place before the commencement of each semester.

Candidates are advised to consult relevant teachers or Heads of Department on the suitable combinations of courses and to adhere closely to the normal study pattern. Less suitable combinations of courses may not be permitted because of timetabling difficulties. Courses listed in the syllabuses may not necessarily be offered every year; and depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered. Candidates may enrol in other courses offered under the BSocSc curriculum.

Candidates may change their course selection during the two-week add/drop period which is scheduled at the beginning of each semester. Withdrawal beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable to the Board of Studies. Candidates' withdrawing from any course without permission will result in a fail grade.

In course registration, candidates should pay special attention to the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of courses as specified in the syllabuses. A prerequisite is a course which candidates must complete successfully before being permitted to take a course in question. A co-requisite is a course which candidates must take at the same time as the course in question.

#### **4. Coursework and Examination Ratio**

The final grading of each course will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in the ratios as specified.

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### **INTRODUCTORY COURSES**

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#### **Language Enhancement Courses**

##### **CAES1000. Core University English (6 credits)**

The Core University English (CUE) course aims to enhance first-year students' academic English language proficiency in the university context. CUE focuses on developing students' academic English language skills for the Common Core Curriculum. These include the language skills needed to understand and produce spoken and written academic texts, express academic ideas and concepts clearly and in a well-structured manner and search for and use academic sources of information in their writing and speaking. Students will also complete four online-learning modules through the Moodle platform on academic grammar, academic vocabulary, citation and referencing skills and understanding and avoiding plagiarism. This course will help students to participate more effectively in their first-year university studies in English, thereby enriching their first-year experience. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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##### **CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)**

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided. Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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##### **CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (6 credits)**

This course is specifically designed for the students from the Mainland. With *Putonghua* as the medium of instruction, it aims to underscore the characteristic styles and formats of practical Chinese writings in the workplace context in Hong Kong. Topics addressing the rhetorical strategies for reader-oriented professional writings are included to strengthen the students' command of the language. In the "Chinese Characters" component, drilling practices provide ample opportunity for the students to learn to convert simplified characters into their traditional forms. The evolution of Cantonese and the lexical and phonetic systems of this dialect will be explored. The local history and culture of Hong Kong will also be considered. On-site visits are organized to deepen the students' understanding of local traditions and, more importantly, to enhance their ability to appreciate and accept cultural and regional differences. Assessment:

50% coursework, 50% examination.

**CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (6 credits)**

Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course enables students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong Chinese, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Mandarin, to strengthen their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and people in Hong Kong. Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**Geography**

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**GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the processes and spatial patterns of economic development and social changes in an increasingly urbanizing world. Important subjects to be discussed include the geographical dynamics of economic development, the trend of economic globalization versus local development, the location issue in various economic sectors, geopolitics and the new world order, as well as social and environmental concerns in the urbanization process. Emphasis will be placed on the geographical explanation of economic development and emerging urban issues in this fast changing world.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination

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**GEOG1016. Nature conservation for sustainable societies (6 credits)**

The consumption of the Earth's resources has reached an alarming level in terms of the intensity and severity of deleterious impacts. This course surveys the major issues related to the tenure of human-nature interactions, their current status as well as the prognosis for the future. A synoptic view on the cultural roots of the exploitative utilization of our planet sets the backdrop for a systematic assessment of the different but interrelated components of the resource system. Various abiotic, biotic and abiotic-cum-biotic segments are discussed in the light of their diversified uses and misuses in different human societies, and the possibility for a more enlightened approach towards a more sustainable future. Adopting a non-technical approach, this course appeals to students with a background in different arts, business, social sciences or science disciplines.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination

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**GEOG1017. Human geography in a globalizing world (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course about the processes and spatial patterns of human population, settlements, and culture in a globalizing world. Important subjects to be discussed will include the main themes of human geography as a spatial science, geography of population and migration, technological innovation and cultural diffusion, the changing cultural landscape, human impacts on the natural environment, and changing geography in major world regions. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction between human society and the natural environment.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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## **Politics and 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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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## **Psychology**

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### **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. Assessment: 100% coursework

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

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## **Social Work and Social Administration**

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### **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. Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

The two courses, SOWK1001 Introduction to social administration and SOWK1008 Social welfare system and social policy, are mutually exclusive. Students can only take either one of these two courses within their whole course of study.

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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. Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **SOWK1008. Social welfare system and social policy (6 credits)**

This course introduces the basic concepts and function of social welfare and social services, and

the principles and methods of social policy and social planning. Analysis will be undertaken on a range of social services in Hong Kong such as housing, health, labour, education, social security and social welfare services including family, children and youth, community development, rehabilitation, elderly and other relevant services. Students taking the course will also acquire an understanding of the philosophy, mechanism and processes of policy making and planning, the methods of analyzing and evaluating social policy.

The two courses, SOWK1001 Introduction to social administration and SOWK1008 Social welfare system and social policy, are mutually exclusive. Students can only take either one of these two courses within their whole course of study.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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## **Sociology**

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### **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.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% 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.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Law**

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### **LLAW1001. and LLAW1002. Law of contract I and II (12 credits)**

The function of contract; formation of a valid contract; offer and acceptance; capacity; illegality; interpretation of the terms of a contract; misrepresentation; mistake; duress and undue influence; privity; performance, discharge and breach; quasi-contract; remedies; principles of agency.

Assessment: 30% in-class test at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester, 70% examination at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

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### **LLAW1005. and LLAW1006. Law of tort I and II (12 credits)**

This course introduces students to the tort law system and the general and particularized

principles of tort liability. The course begins with a critical examination of the social and economic functions of the tort system. It then proceeds to an examination of the leading case law and principles in the main tort actions, beginning with a detailed analysis of the predominant tort, that of negligence. Important negligence-related concepts such as vicarious liability, contribution and limitation of action are considered, as well as the principle remedy for negligence, that of damages for personal injury and death. Torts closely related to negligence such as occupiers' liability and breach of statutory duty are also studied, as are the tort-related no-fault accident compensation schemes for work-related injury and disease. The course then proceeds to a study of trespassory torts, those torts that cause injury or interference through intentional conduct, and the remedies available. Torts causing damage to or interference with property and their remedies are then considered, including nuisance and *Rylands v. Fletcher*. The course concludes with an examination of and the remedies for the torts that protection reputation, principally, defamation.

This course aims to provide a solid grounding in the functions and principles of tort law, the ability to think critically about tort law, and the ability to conduct independent legal research and provide meaningful legal analysis of tort law problems. Through carefully designed learning activities, the course aims to nurture in students the ability to identify tort law issues in the unflagged tort-related events of daily life, and to engage in the independent legal analysis of such unflagged tort-related events.

Assessment: 60% final examination, 20% coursework in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, including a test accounting for either 10% or 20% and a tutorial assignment submission accounting for either 0% or 10% (detailed instructions will be provided on the course website), 20% coursework in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester (research essay or reflective media diary)

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### **LLAW1008. The legal system (6 credits)**

An overview of major legal systems in the world (common law, civil law, socialist law, religious law), including a brief overview on a comparison between the common law system and the PRC legal system; the ideology of the common law system and the rule of law, justice and separation of powers; development of the Hong Kong legal system; classification of law, sources of Hong Kong law; law making process; Hong Kong court system; doctrine of stare decisis; access to justice and legal aid; legal profession and legal services; jury system; law reform; Government lawyers and organization of Government legal services; the language of the law; interface between the PRC legal system and the Hong Kong legal system.

Assessment: 25% take home examination or in-class mid-term., 75% examination.

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### **LLAW1009. Law and society (6 credits)**

This course aims to capture the dynamics between law and society, namely, how law is shaped by social changes, perception and thought, and how society is moulded by legal rules and norms. Broad interdisciplinary knowledge and perspectives relevant to the study of the relationship between law and society will be discussed. Theoretical, empirical and policy considerations will be taken into account.

General themes chosen to highlight the above dynamics will include the relationship between law and political power, law and economic development, law and history, law and family, and law and social life. Specific topics covered may vary from year to year and may include the

following: the rule of law and the liberal constitutional state; law and economic development in the age of globalisation; the anthropology of law; law and culture; law and morality; the historical and philosophical foundations of western and Chinese law; current socio-legal issues in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 10% continuous assessment, 90% examination.

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### **LLAW1013. Legal research & writing I (6 credits)**

Legal Research and Writing I comprises 5 interwoven components:

1. Legal Research
2. Case Analysis
3. Legislation Analysis
4. Legal Writing Skills
5. Writing Solutions to Legal Problems

The first stage is examining how a case is formed, its importance, the concept of precedent and how to distinguish cases. Students also learn how an ordinance is formed, the role of secondary legislation and the amendment of ordinances.

The second stage is for students to learn how to find cases and ordinances. This includes finding when cases have been followed and distinguished. It also includes finding when ordinances come into force, whether an ordinance has been amended and whether any secondary legislation applies.

The third stage is for students to learn the skills of good legal writing.

The fourth stage is for students to applying cases and ordinances to a set of facts and to write a Legal Memorandum providing advice.

The fifth stage is where students have to research cases and ordinances in respect of a set of facts and to write a Legal Memorandum and research record providing advice and showing the sources used to provide the advice.

Assessment: 85% take home assessment, 6% 2 self-study tutorials, 3% homework 1, 6% homework 2.

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### **LLAW2017. Legal research and writing II (6 credits)**

Legal research and writing II builds on the skills studied in Legal research and writing I and concentrates on oral submissions.

There are 3 main elements of the course which all interrelate:

- (i) Group oral presentations – where students will work in a group to produce a presentation on a legal issue;
- (ii) Individual oral presentations – where students will work on their own to produce a presentation on a legal issue; and

(iii) Written Submissions – where students will work on their own to produce a written submission for a moot.

In each of these elements students will need to identify the issues raised by a legal problem, carry out relevant legal research, either produce written PPTs, hand-outs or submissions and in the first two actually present their findings.

Students will need to ensure that what they do is well structured, correct, full and persuasive.

Pre-requisite: Legal research and writing I

Assessment: 50% examination at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester, 50% examination at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

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## **ADVANCED COURSES**

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### **Faculty of Social Sciences**

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#### **FOSS0018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)**

To fulfill the graduation requirement under the theme of ‘Social Innovation’, students will begin their local or non-local internships after completing the intensive training workshops. They will be placed in local/international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organizations during term time or the summer. They will be supervised and assessed by both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

Social Innovation Internships seek to enhance students’ understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience, and through applying knowledge and skills to real life situations. Students are expected to be socially aware and to have strong analytical, interpersonal and communication skills. On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work-related experiences, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work-related experiences. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **FOSS0019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)**

In order to fulfill the graduation requirement under the theme of ‘Global Citizenship’, students are expected to develop strong analytical abilities in solving complex problems by undertaking non-local internships. For students taking non-local internships, they will begin their internships after completion of the intensive internship workshops. They will be placed in international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organizations during term time or the summer. Through the participation in the non-local internships, students are expected to engage in working closely with international organizations, identifying key issues and developing strategies to enhance social development and promote social innovation. They are expected to conduct critical analysis of social issues, and to propose strategies to address the problems identified in their community organizations. They will be supervised and assessed by

both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work-related experiences, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work-related experiences. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **FOSS0020. Global Citizenship Summer Institute (12 credits)**

The Global Citizenship Summer Institute aims at enhancing students' awareness of the importance of Asia in the globalizing world. Students spend four weeks in different parts of Asia like Taiwan, China, South Korea and Singapore. By the end of these four weeks students will have gained a unique perspective on Asia through interacting with academics, government officials and community leaders and local people in selected Asian societies. Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **Politics and Public Administration**

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*Compulsory course*

### **POLI0104. Research methods in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to the logic and methods of research in politics and public administration. Students will learn the goals and the process of conducting social research. A number of the most commonly used methods in the field of politics and public administration such as questionnaire surveys, interviews, case studies, and focus groups will be introduced. The assumptions, objectives, strengths and weaknesses of each method are discussed. Basic data analysis is also covered.

Assessment: 20% tutorial participation and presentation, 30% group project, 50% examination.

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*Gateway courses*

### **POLI0105. Introduction to comparative politics (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to a thematic approach in understanding politics in comparative settings. Drawing upon examples from liberal democracies, illiberal democracies and authoritarian states, the course examines the characteristics of the main political institutions and processes of the states, including political culture, political participation, the media, political parties, elections, the legislatures and executives. It compares how the various types of states govern, the types of political goods they can probably deliver and their drawbacks. Overall, it explores which way(s) is the best, and if democracy is universally applicable.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0009 are not allowed to take this course.

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### **POLI0106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)**

In this course students will be introduced to the central concepts in, and theoretical approaches to, the study of world politics both in historical and contemporary contexts. The first five classes will focus on the evolution of world politics as well as the concepts and predominant theoretical approaches used by students of international relations to understand and explain the field. The course then will explore specific issues in international relations. These include: the study of foreign policy and decision-making; international ethics; international economy; causes of conflict, war and peace; new security issues; and issues of global governance. Throughout the course students will be challenged to think critically about world politics and hone specific academic skills. The course provides a foundation for further study in world politics.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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### **POLI0107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)**

This course addresses some fundamental questions in the field of political theory: Why do we need the state? How to justify it? Who should rule? What rights and liberties should citizens have? What are the obligations and responsibilities that citizens owe to one another? Through addressing these questions this course provides students with a broad introduction to the major concepts and thinkers associated with western political theory – concepts such as authority, democracy, liberty, rights, justice and property, and thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and Mill.

This is a “gateway” course, and it is very strongly recommended that students complete this course before enrolling in any other political theory classes.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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### **POLI0108. Introduction to public administration (6 credits)**

The purpose of this gateway course is to introduce students to the fundamental concepts and theories of public administration. Students will gain an overview of both issues and practices related to the public administration. The course focuses on the traditions, environment, politics, and core functions of public administration.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI1002 are not allowed to take this course.

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### *Capstone courses*

### **POLI0092. Research internship in politics and public administration (6 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. The internship includes meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, assisting in ongoing empirical research projects, and writing an internship report.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **POLI0109. Directed project in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

Students will have an opportunity to learn to do an empirical research projects for a specific topic under a teacher’s supervision in the Department. The internship includes meeting individually with the supervisor, reading relevant theoretical and empirical articles, conducting empirical research projects, and writing an internship report.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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*Elective courses*

**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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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

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

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination

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**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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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 who have taken FOSS0010 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

**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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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 the 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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.]

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

**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 are also examined.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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

This course examines the structural design and operation of the public sector 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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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

American politics captivates domestic and international audiences. In order to construct informed opinions on the American political process, what should politics students outside of the United States know about institutions in the US government and the US political system? The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to American politics, with a focus on Congressional and Presidential elections. Students will learn about the philosophical and constitutional basis of the American political system, the contours of American federalism, the interaction between the 3 formal (executive, judiciary, and legislative) and 3 informal (bureaucracy, media, and scientific advisors) branches of government in the US, and how elections reveal the internal dynamics of the American political system.  
Assessment: 100% examination (2 term examinations, 1 final examination)

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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.

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**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.  
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.  
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **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 a 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 practicing "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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

**POLI0064/LLAW3080. 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 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, student must have completed POLI1002 Fundamentals of public administration or POLI0108 Introduction to public administration and LLAW2002/3093 Administrative law.

Assessment: 50% open book in-hall examination, 30% research paper, 20% group project presentation.

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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.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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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.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0069. Public policy, politics and social change (6 credits)**

It is a common belief that public policies aim to control socially harmful behavior and to advance desirable, collective societal ends. Contrary to this belief, some policies have only served as tools

to strengthen political and economic power of certain groups (or countries) at the expense of others. This course examines this dark side of public policies by addressing critical questions that include: whose interests are reflected in the policies? what are the institutional sources of policies/decisions? how does the powerful manipulate public opinion? who benefits and who pays for the costs of these policies in what ways? etc. By exploring answers to these questions, students are expected to identify sources of widespread injustice in contemporary societies. To conceptualize the core ideas, the course engages in the analysis of propaganda techniques, U.S. foreign policy, and the distribution of hazardous wastes, etc. The course will consist of a combination of lectures and group discussions. Active class participation is required.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **POLI0070. Language and advice in politics and public administration (6 credits)**

How does language relate to political life and the practice of public administration? The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the study and use of language in politics and public administration. This course will introduce students to the use of political language as an important part of political practice and political philosophy. Students will be introduced to the idea of political language as an historically and culturally contingent form of communication that shapes and is shaped by the institutions of the state. Students will come to understand the importance of deploying political language clearly for the task of advising political leaders on policy choices while facing civil servants and ordinary citizens. Students will apply the knowledge they gain in this course to their political environment by composing letters and/or memos offering advice to political and civil service leaders on important policy matters currently facing Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **POLI0072. Normative theory of Public Administration (6 credits)**

In this course students will explore dominant theoretical paradigms of the study of public administration with the goal of identifying and critiquing the norms that inform the theories themselves and subsequent related empirical studies. Normative questions that will be probed in this course include: Who are public administrators? How do public administrators gather knowledge? How ought this knowledge be deployed and to what ends? What role do public administrators play in establishing and maintaining the good life? Are public administrators political actors? How do public administrators and public administration fit into the theoretical study of politics?

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **POLI0075/LLAW3142. Law and politics of constitutions (6 credits)**

Almost all modern states are constitutional states in the sense that they, in one form or the other, have a constitution. A constitution is not only a legal document; it is also a political instrument. For what purpose was the constitution made; for what functions could it serve; and on which it can be sustained are questions that cannot be answered without considering the interaction between law and politics in the making, implementation and development of the constitution.

This course applies an interdisciplinary approach and a comparative perspective to analyze intertwining issues of law and politics concerning constitutions like: constitutional interpretation theories, the roles of political parties, religion, judiciary and the public in the constitutional

processes, and the significance of dialogue in constitutional deliberation.  
Assessment: 100% continuous assessment.

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**POLI0076. A special topic in international politics (6 credits)**

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

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0077. A special topic in comparative politics (6 credits)**

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

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0078. Humanity in globalization (6 credits)**

The study of globalization occurs at differing levels of analysis. System level studies, for example, may focus on the interactions between states and multinational corporations. Population level studies focus on the impact that globalizing forces inflict upon distinct populations, variously defined as either small groups, threatened cultures, or prospering nations. The intent of this course is to introduce students to the study of globalization at the population level, with an explicit focus on small groups defined by a variety of characteristics such as age, race, ethnicity, language, or religious affiliation. Topics of study will include: domestic and international migration patterns; group-state interaction and resistance; globalization, identity formation and domestic welfare; patterns of consumption; and the impact of inter-state and global travel on domestic political expectations.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0079. Global justice (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction into some of the main issues in the field of global justice, such as legitimacy and authority in international politics, self-determination, human rights, global distributive justice and the normative relations between the rich and the poor, the significance of borders, and immigration

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0071 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0080. Global political economy (6 credits)**

This course explores the political dimensions of global economic relations. The objectives of this course are to give students a better appreciation of major problems and dilemmas of contemporary global economy and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in the global economy. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on

global political economy. The course then examines distinct issue areas: trade, finance, development, multinational corporations, North-South relations, regionalization, and globalization.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

**POLI0081. Workshop in Global Studies (6 credits)**

This course gives students the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained in their global studies courses by engaging in interactive problem-solving exercises led by members of the community engaged in the process of creating globalization and/or protecting local identities. Through the use of interactive media, research-intensive teaching methods, and interactive, community-led lectures, students will gain knowledge of the nuances and contours of global issues. Students will produce joint position papers and debates on policy arenas discussed, taking into account their role as social innovators and global citizens.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI0085. Globalization and healthcare policy (6 credits)**

Modern states spend increasing amounts of their budgets on healthcare. Consumers also spend ever larger amounts of their income on health related services and products. How governments respond to the healthcare needs of citizens is a defining aspect of that government. In this course, students will examine the public healthcare systems of nations around the world, focusing on issues of basic healthcare provision, healthcare funding and insurance, regulation of healthcare, inclusion of advanced healthcare techniques (i.e., ECMO treatment of neonates, care of brain-dead individuals, genomic medicine, and organ transplantation), and public healthcare administration in the face of global health threats (i.e. influenzas, SARS, and MDR/XDR TB). Having taken this course, students will be familiar with one aspect of the global conduct of domestic politics.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0086. Leadership skills in Public Administration (6 credits)**

The policy making and management structure of the HKSAR Government have undergone major developments in the past ten years. Significant changes are expected in the next ten years with the expansion of the Accountability System, the increasing influence of the media and various civic groups, and the need to make arrangements for the introduction of universal suffrage in the election of the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council in 2017 and possibly 2020 respectively. University graduates considering a career in the public service will benefit from a good understand of the formal and informal decision-making and management process within the government. The course will also provide students with practical management and public presentation skills when they start their career upon graduation. This course will explain the constitutional, policy making and management framework of the HKSAR government and associated major recent developments, the changing role of the civil service, particularly the Administrative Service, and the impending changes to public governance in the next ten years and beyond.

The primary focus of the course is to develop the students' management and public presentation skills through various exercises such as discussions, written assignments, projects and presentations on selected topics. Students attending this course are expected to participate actively in these exercises.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI0088. 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? When we look around the world today, are our national security apparatuses providing us with the security that we need? Human Security refers to an emerging paradigm for understanding global politics whose proponents believe that the world requires a more comprehensive notion of security, one that marries the traditionally separate fields of development and defense studies and links the traditionally opposing principles of human rights and state sovereignty. Human Security proponents argue that today's security threats go beyond our traditional understanding of defense threats, (e.g. attack from another state) to include poverty, economic inequality, diseases, human rights abuses, environmental pollution, and natural disasters. This course will review the emergence of and major themes behind the Human Security paradigm and will ask if and how Human Security can be meaningfully applied in a policy context. The use of real-world case studies and simulation exercises throughout the course will 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.

Eligibility: Students who have taken FOSS0003/FOSS0003A/FOSS0003B are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0089. Global Studies internship (12 credits)**

Global Studies Internships seek to enhance students' understanding and skills of managing development in a globalized world through conducting development projects coordinated by international development organizations and academic extension units. Students taking Global Studies Internships will explore the intersection of theoretical learning of Global Studies and development works in a globalized world. Students will be involved in the actual planning, management, and delivery of development projects that seek to empower local communities to cope with problems ranging from environment protection to disaster management, natural resource conservation to community building in developing countries.

The Global Studies internship is comprised of two components. The first is a series of workshops and sessions, aiming at equipping students with knowledge about development issues, essential techniques for conducting development works and essential skills for working with international development agencies. The second is work placements in different international development organizations. Students will work closely with staff of host organizations for development projects. Global Studies Internship will take place during summer semester.

On completion of the Global Studies Internship, students are required to give a presentation on what they have learned and achieved in the internships and to produce an extensive report critically reflecting upon their experiences after engaging in development works.

This course can be taken for fulfilling the Faculty's Global Citizenship requirement. If students take such option, they are required to complete another 12 credits from the PPA course list for fulfilling the major or minor requirement.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Workshop assignments (20%)  
Placement performance (40%)  
Final report and presentation (40%)

**POLI0091. History of western political thought (6 credits)**

This course serves as an introduction and survey of the major currents of western political thought. The material surveyed in this course includes a chronology of major texts of political theory, starting with the early Greeks and ending with thinkers emblematic of the advent of modern liberalism. Students enrolled in this course will gain competencies in the study of politics as a unique human endeavor, with attention paid to major themes and debates in the history of political thought. These themes include the nature of man as political animal, the role of the individual and the community as center of political decision-making, the shape of the office of authority, and the theory of the state. Having taken this course, students will be fluent in the description of individual thinkers and their relationship to one another, as well as the relationship of prominent thinkers' arguments to current political debates and political practices around the globe.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0093. Understanding social protest (6 credits)**

From Hong Kong's political demonstration on July 1<sup>st</sup> to the protest rally organized by your student union, social protest is undoubtedly an important form of politics. Outside of the formal and institutionalized channels, people do take politics onto the streets and use disruptive means to achieve political ends from time to time. This course seeks to provide students with grounding in the basic tools of understanding social protest and social movement. In addition to Hong Kong, cases will be drawn from many different countries—from the American civil rights movement to the 2007 democratic demonstrations in Burma, from Gandhi's *satyagraha* (non-violent resistance) to the more recent "color revolutions" in Europe and Central Asia etc. Students will also learn about influential social movement leaders past and present, such as Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Mandela, Mao, Lech Walesa, Aung San Suu Kyi and more.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0094. Political participation: why and how? (6 credits)**

Why and how do people participate in politics? What are the channels through which people make their voices heard and interests represented? Why does political participation take different forms in different countries? Why is participation important for democracy to sustain and non-democracies to change? This course will examine the dynamics and patterns of political participation in both democratic *and* non-democratic societies. Topics will cover voting & election, political party, representative institution, public opinion, civic organization, mass media, lobbying, interest group and informal politics in democratic societies as well as the modes, scope and impact of political participation under non-democratic regimes.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0095. Civil society and governance (6 credits)**

The main objective of the course is to help students understand the concept of civil society, its historical circumstances and theoretical approaches, and the role of civil society in public governance. Topics include conceptions of civil society in the history of political thought and contemporary discourse; roles and impacts of civil society; trends of civil society development; theoretical approaches to civil society; social movements; legitimacy and accountability of civil society organizations; legal framework for civil society organizations, and the role of civil society in public governance.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

**POLI0096. Citizenship, culture and community (6 credits)**

This module surveys major debates surrounding citizenship, culture and community in political thinking. It addresses important questions such as: Should citizens assume an active role in political life? Is it ever justifiable for citizens to break the law? What is the value of culture and community? How does the experience of 'multiculturalism' challenge traditional conceptions of citizenship and community? Is nationalism a positive or negative ethos in political communities? Are political communities being transformed by globalization? Is there any such thing as 'global citizenship'?

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0097. Modernity and globalization (6 credits)**

The concept of 'modernity' refers to a series of developments that transformed the world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the emergence of the modern state, democracy, capitalism and modern industry. The concept of 'globalization' refers to a series of similar dynamics in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, such as the emergence of global governance, new forms of global trade and industry, and apparent transformations in cultures and societies. This module surveys some of the most important debates about modernity and globalization in social and political thought, addressing important questions such as: What does it mean to be 'modern'? Is modernity a distinctively 'Western' experience? What is 'globalization'? Is globalization a transformation or continuation of modernity? Does globalization mark the 'triumph' of the 'West'?

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**POLI0098. Nonprofit management (6 credits)**

This course is designed to advance students' understanding of the management and operation of organizations in the nonprofit sector. In particular, it examines issues unique to the governance and administration of nonprofits, including board management, fundraising, philanthropy, nonprofit accounting and reporting, leadership, and network management. Students will learn both the theories and practical techniques required for an effective manager in nonprofit organizations.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0099. Perspectives and practice in world politics (6 credits)**

This is an intermediate level course in international relations. The objectives of this course are to encourage students to think critically about core scholarly readings in the field of international relations, and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in world politics. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on international relations. The course then examines distinct issue areas: international economy, war, terrorism, environment, regional integration, globalization, and international institutions.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI0100. Social contracts (6 credits)**

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The course will introduce students to the three major traditions of social-contract theory, *viz.* the Hobbesian (“Classical”), Lockean (“Medieval”), and Rousseauian (“Modern”) traditions. They will not only learn about the intellectual history of each of these traditions but also examine their central texts in detail: Thomas Hobbes’ *Leviathan*, John Locke’s *Second Treatise*, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s *Social Contract*, respectively. Moreover, the course will emphasize their frequently overlapping concepts and concerns, including consent, equality, liberty, property, autonomy, the state of nature, commercial society, democratic self-government, and popular revolution.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination,

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### **POLI0101. Human rights and culture differences (6 credits)**

The first part of the course introduces some of the best theories of human rights. The focus will be on theories (e.g. Gewirth, Griffin) which closely associate rights with the nature of human beings. We shall then examine whether the view of human nature at the basis of these theories is constrained by the culture in which they evolved. In the course of this investigation, we shall discuss various specific rights (against poverty; free speech) and thorny issues (positive vs. negative rights – who has the duties to provide?).

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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### **POLI0102. Science, technology and public policy (6 credits)**

The course will introduce students to the vocabulary and issues related to governance, particularly public policy making, in a scientifically and technologically advanced society.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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### **POLI0103. Politics of the Global South (6 credits)**

The course will introduce students to the main debates and to some of the basic concepts and skills used in the analysis of the politics of the Global South. The course will combine theoretical perspectives with case studies, and will focus on a series of issues relevant to understanding political processes in the Global South. The course will explore the genealogy of the “Third World” concept and its mutation into the “Global South”, historical processes of decolonization, and some of the political challenges facing the postcolonial world. Furthermore, lectures will cover topics such as development and modernization, migration and mobility, human security and political violence, environmental degradation and processes of urbanization, the emergence of global cities, and human rights and democratization.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0033 are not allowed to take this course.

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### **POLI0110. Dilemmas of humanitarian intervention (6 credits)**

To examine dilemmas of humanitarian intervention, the course looks not only at states but also at INGOs and the aid business, and not only at aid but also at wider forms of political engagement. It focuses on (a) the emergence of humanitarian intervention, (b) its contemporary nature, (c) success and failure, (d) moral challenges, and (e) ways forward. It requires small groups of course participants to select one developing country for in-depth study, both to deepen their learning and to build a platform for comparative analysis in class.

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Assessment: class participation (10%), one course journal (20%), one term paper (30%) and one 2-hour examination (40%).

Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI0076 in 2011-12 are not allowed to take this course.

## **Law**

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### **Compulsory Courses**

#### **LLAW2001. Constitutional law (6 credits)**

Constitutional law is a core component of a legal system. It also constitutes the foundation of a legal system, because it stipulates what are the sources of law in the legal system and how the law is made; it establishes, empowers and constrains the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government; and it regulates the relationship between these organs of government as well as the relationship between the government and the people. From the perspective of the people, constitutional law guarantees and protects their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In Hong Kong, constitutional law also performs the important function of regulating the relationship between Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Central Government Authorities of the PRC. Constitutional law in Hong Kong is therefore the legal foundation of 'One Country, Two Systems'. It is also an area of the law which is often the focus of public and media attention. Constitutional law cases and controversies often appear in the Hong Kong press as frontpage news stories. The outcomes of constitutional litigation sometimes not only change the lives of the parties to the case, but also have wide and deep impact on the Hong Kong community and its public and social policies, or the political relationship between Hong Kong and mainland China.

Constitutional law is closely related to politics, political philosophy and history. In students' previous legal studies, they have already come across aspects of constitutional history and constitutional theory (e.g. in the Law and Society course), as well as some constitutional controversies in Hong Kong (e.g. in the Legal System course). We hope that this course on constitutional law will provide for students the opportunity to study the subject more systematically and intensively. However, as it is only a one-semester course, it can do no more than opening the door for students, so that students who are interested in a broader and deeper understanding of the subject may acquire a solid foundation for their future studies in this interesting, exciting and challenging domain of public law.

Assessment: 100% examination.

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#### **LLAW3001. Introduction to legal theory (6 credits)**

This course encourages critical reflections on the nature of law, the central issues of jurisprudence and the concepts and techniques used in the operation of legal systems. Topics to be covered may include some of the following: the relationship between law and morality; natural law; legal positivism; Ronald Dworkin's jurisprudence; utilitarianism and economic analysis of law; justice; liberty; rights; the Rule of Law; punishment; adjudication and legal reasoning; legal realism; sociological jurisprudence; critical legal studies; feminist

jurisprudence; postmodern jurisprudence.

Assessment: 25% in-class group presentation, 75% examination.

**LLAW3093. Administrative law (6 credits)**

The topics which may be included in the course in any particular year include theories of administrative decision-making, judicial review of administrative action (*ultra vires* and procedural fairness, Wednesbury unreasonableness, proportionality, abuse of power), delegated legislation, administrative law remedies, control of law-making by delegates, the practical aspects of bringing an action for judicial review under order 53 of the Rules of the High Court, non-curial means of control and scrutiny of administrative action (Ombudsman, Administrative appeals, public enquiries), the structure and operation of administrative tribunals in Hong Kong, the Bill of Rights and review of administrative decision-making in Hong Kong, and access to information.

Assessment: 25% research paper, 75% examination.

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**LLAW3203. Guided research (6 credits)**

Instruction will be given on the principles of effective legal writing and in legal research methodology and techniques. Students will also consider how to choose a research topic, how to work effectively with their supervisor and the problem of plagiarism.

The majority of the course (by its very nature) will involve students carrying out research and preparing their research paper on their own.

The research paper must not exceed 8,000 words (excluding tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies. Footnotes or endnotes should not exceed 2,000 words). The individual research paper is on an approved topic and is carried out under the supervision of an assigned supervisor.

Assessment: 100% Research paper

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