

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title : Bachelor of Social Science Education (Honours) (Greater China Studies)
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Greater China Studies

Programme QF Level : 5

Course Title : Politics and Law in Greater China

Course Code : GCS3003

Department : Social Sciences and Policy Studies

Credit Points : 3

Contact Hours : 39

Pre-requisite(s) : Nil

Medium of Instruction: EMI

Course Level : 2

Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Sub-degree, Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate, Professional Doctorate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):

- Professional Excellence;
- Ethical Responsibility; &
- Innovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:

1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
- 4a. Oral Communication Skills
- 4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making
7. Global Perspectives

1. Course Synopsis

This course is designed to introduce students to the role and function of the politics and law in shaping social transitions in four geographic regions of Greater China, i.e., Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau. The course will familiarize students with the concepts, issues and perspectives essential for understanding the politics and law in Greater China, with focus on the key issues of political authority, political decision making, the rule of the law, law-making machinery, and the relationships among the state, political party, and lawmaking institutions in shaping political and legal issues in the specific social contexts in the four Chinese societies. The course will engage participants in a critical and comparative analysis of these issues and their impact on social transitions in Greater China.

The course will first examine concepts and theories on political culture and political decision making. The second part will review the historical development of politics and legislation in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau. The third part will compare the similarities and differences in the political structures and legal systems in specific social contexts in Greater China. Based on the comparative analysis, the fourth part will engage students in exploring the role and function of politics and law in shaping social development in the four Chinese societies.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- CILO₁ understand the concepts, issues and perspectives essential for understanding the politics and law in Greater China.
- CILO₂ apply critical thinking skills and adopt comparative perspectives in examining the role and functions of political decision-making and legislation in specific social contexts.
- CILO₃ compare and contrast societal contexts in Greater China with a view toward drawing broader conclusions about characteristics of the political and legal system in Greater China.
- CILO₄ make use of inquiry approaches and qualitative/quantitative techniques to carry out research projects comparing the role and function of politics and law in shaping a political and legal issue in specific social contexts of Greater China.

3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
a. Political culture and political decision making: concepts and theories	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Video-analysis • Case studies • Group discussion
b. Historical development of politics and legislation in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>	
c. Characteristics of the political and legal systems in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>	
d. Politics, law, and social development in Greater China: a comparative analysis	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>	

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILOs
(a) Tutorial participation: Students are required to do one group presentation and should participate actively in the discussion	30%	<i>CILO₁₋₂</i>
(b) One group paper (4000, +/- 10%): Written up on the questions students have chosen for their tutorial presentations. The group should keep the division of labour to remark every groupmate's written part as an assessment of individual writing will also be conducted on top of the general group assessment (Group: 15%; Individual: 15%)	30%	<i>CILO₃₋₄</i>
(c) One examination: Testing the definitions, applications and reflections of politics, law and society	40%	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>

5. Required Text(s)

Nil

6. Recommended Readings

Albert Chen. (2000). "The interpretation of the Basic law - common law and Mainland

Chinese perspectives," *Hong Kong Law Journal*, 30: 3: 380-431.

Basic Law, HKSAR

Bingham, Tom. (2011). *The Rule of Law*, London: Penguin Books.

Dillon, Michael. (2009). *Contemporary China: an introduction*, London; New York: Routledge.

Dorf, Michael C. (2010). *Constitutional Law*, New York: Oxford University Press.

Fell, Dafydd. (2012). *Government and politics in Taiwan*, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon [England]; New York: Routledge: Routledge.

Hao Zhidong. (2011). *Macau: History and Society*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Jone, William C. (2003). "Trying to Understand the Current Chinese Legal System," in Hsu, C. Stephen (ed.) *Understanding China's Legal System: Essays in Honor of Jerome A. Cohen*, New York: New York University Press, pp. 7-45.

Kenneth G. Lieberthal, Cheng Li, and Yu Keping. (2014) (eds.) *China's political development: Chinese and American perspectives*, Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 103 – 135.

Lam, Wai-man, Lui, Percy Luen-tim and Wong, Wilson Wai Ho. (2012) (eds.) *Contemporary Hong Kong government and politics*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Loughlin, Martin. (1992). *Public Law and Political Theory*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ma, Ngok. (2007). *Political development in Hong Kong: state, political society and civil society*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Raz, Joseph. (2009). *The Authority of Law: Essays on Law and Morality*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Vago, Steven. (2009). *Law and Society*, 9th Edition, Upper Saddle River, N.J. : Pearson/Prentice Hall,

Wacks, Raymond. (2012). *Understanding Jurisprudence: An Introduction to Legal Theory*, 3rd Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

瞿同祖 (1989) 《中國法律與中國社會》(上海：上海書店)。

蕭蔚雲 (編) (1990) 《一國兩制與香港特別行政區基本法》(香港：文化教育出版社)。

7. Related Web Resources

Basic Law, HKSAR.

<http://www.basiclaw.gov.hk/en/basiclawtext/>

Bilingual Laws Information System, Department of Justice:
<http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/index.htm>

National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China:
<http://www.npc.gov.cn/>

Legislative Council of the Hong Kong SAR:
<http://www.legco.gov.hk/>

Legislative Yuan of the Republic of China (Taiwan):
<http://www.ly.gov.tw/>

Legislative Assembly of the Macao SAR:
<http://www.al.gov.mo/en/en.htm>

8. Related Journals

Journal of Asian Public Policy. Routledge.

International Journal of Educational Development. Elsevier.

The International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society. Springer.

Journal of Management and Governance. Springer.

China Review. The Chinese University Press.

The China Quarterly. Cambridge University Press.

Education and the Law. Routledge.

9. Academic Honesty

The University upholds the principles of honesty in all areas of academic work. We expect our students to carry out all academic activities honestly and in good faith. Please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/uploads/docs/000000000016336798924548BbN5>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

10. Others

Newspaper articles and on-line videos on relevant topics and issues will be used wherever and whenever necessary and feasible.

Last updated: 22 December 2023