

# THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Course Outline

### Part I

<b>Programme Title</b>	: Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Policy Science and Management
<b>Programme QF Level</b>	: 5
<b>Course Title</b>	: Foundations of Policy Science and Public Management
<b>Course Code</b>	: POS1003
<b>Department</b>	: Asian and Policy Studies
<b>Credit Points</b>	: 3
<b>Contact Hours</b>	: 39
<b>Pre-requisite(s)</b>	: Nil
<b>Medium of Instruction</b>	: EMI
<b>Course Level</b>	: 1

### 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 Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate 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 expose students to the practical, problem-oriented and multidisciplinary way policy problems can be viewed, defined and understood. It introduces students to a variety of problem framing and critical analytical tools, including those drawn from the disciplines of Public Management, Leadership, Political Science and Economics – the historical pillars of Public Policy.

## 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

- CILO<sub>1</sub> Understand the theoretical underpinnings of policy science and public management;
- CILO<sub>2</sub> Understand how public policies are made and implemented and explore the strategies for improving the process;
- CILO<sub>3</sub> Demonstrate understanding on the essential practices and values of public sector management and general techniques of improving organization performance; and
- CILO<sub>4</sub> Critically analyse challenges and reforms to policy science and public management in East Asia.

## 3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Theoretical foundation of policy science and management	CILO <sub>1</sub>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lectures</li><li>• Tutorials</li><li>• Essay</li><li>• Web and library search</li><li>• Reading lecture notes and key references</li></ul>
Public policy process and institutions	CILO <sub>2</sub>	
Public sector management: practices and values	CILO <sub>3</sub>	
An overview of challenges and reforms of policy science and public management in East Asia	CILO <sub>4</sub>	

## 4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
(a) Class Discussion and Participation: Students are expected to read relevant readings before s/he attends the seminars and must participate actively in the discussion.	20%	CILO <sub>1-4</sub>
(b) Group Project: Students are required to work in small groups to evaluate a real-world policy intervention by analyzing secondary data and submit a group report.	40%	CILO <sub>1-4</sub>
(c) Final Examination: Consisting of a series of short-answer questions, the exam will be based exclusively on the required reading undertaken for the course	40%	CILO <sub>1-4</sub>

## 5. Required Text(s)

- Howlett, M. & Ramesh, M. *Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Wu, X., Ramesh, M., Howlett, M., & Fritzen, S. A. (2010). *The Public Policy Primer: Managing the Policy Process*. London: Routledge.

## 6. Recommended Readings

- Hughes, O. E. (2012). *Public Management and Administration: An Introduction* (4th edition). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Lynn, L. E. Jr. (2006). *Public Management: Old and New* (1<sup>st</sup> edition). New York: Routledge.
- Sabatier, P., & Weible, C. M. (2014). *Theories of the Policy Process* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Boulder: Westview.

## 7. Related Web Resources

- Asian Development Bank (ADB): [www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)
- Chinese Public Administration Research: <http://www.cpar.net/>
- Hong Kong Public Administration Association: <http://www.hkpaa.org.hk/>
- Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University: [www.hks.harvard.edu](http://www.hks.harvard.edu)
- Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore: [www.lkyspp.nus.edu.sg](http://www.lkyspp.nus.edu.sg)
- Public Sector Management and Governance – Asian Development Bank: <http://beta.adb.org/themes/governance/main>
- Section on Chinese Public Administration of The American Society for Public Administration: <http://www.cpar.net/>
- The Economist: [www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com)
- United Nations Public Administration Network: <http://www.unpan.org/>
- World Bank: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

## 8. Related Journals

- Governance: An International Journal of Policy*
- Journal of Asian Public Policy*
- Policy and Society*
- Policy Studies Journal*
- Public Administration and Development*
- Public Administration Review*

## 9. Academic Honesty

The University adopts a zero tolerance policy to plagiarism. For the University's policy on plagiarism, please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity with Specific Reference to the Avoidance of Plagiarism by Students* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/modules/downloads/visit.php?cid=9&lid=89>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

**10. Others**

Nil.

Last updated on 17 May 2019