

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	: Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Global and Environmental Studies
Programme QF Level	: 5
Course Title	: Honours Project – Phase II
Course Code	: INS4048
Department	: Social Sciences, and Science and Environmental Studies
Credit Points	: 3
Contact Hours	: --
Pre-requisite(s)	: SSC4245 Honours Project – Phase I
Medium of Instruction	: EMI
Course Level	: 4

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 the continuation of “Honours Project-Phase I” and aims to further develop students’ analytical skills in conducting systematic inquiry. Students are expected to select their own area of investigation based on issues or topics encountered earlier in the programme. They are expected to produce a full-length report which consists of the scope of the research, the relevant literature in the area of the study, the method of data collection, and research findings.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

- CILO₁ select and utilize the research method appropriate to their own research.
- CILO₂ systematically conduct their investigation, analyses and interpretations.
- CILO₃ report on the processes and results of the research.

3. Content, CILOs & Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Phase II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with supervisors • Drafting of proposals for the study, including topic, research question, and methods of investigation. • Systematically conducting the proposed study. 	CILO _{1,2}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group or individual consultation with advisor throughout the process. • Students working on related topics will meet regularly in support groups.
Phase II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing report and presenting findings. 	CILO ₃	

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILOs
a) Refinement of project proposal	10%	CILO _{1,2,3}
b) Project presentation	20%	
c) A 4,500-word written research report which includes a statement of the problem, a critical review of literature, a description of research methods, an analysis of the findings and relevant discussion of the results	70%	

5. Required Text(s)

- Fairbrother, G. P. (2007). *Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches to Comparative Education*. In M. Bray, B. Adamson, & M. Mason (Eds.), *Comparative Education Research: Approaches and methods* (39-62). Hong Kong: The University of Hong Kong.
- Guthrie, G. (2010). *Basic Research Methods: An Entry to Social Science Research*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. This is an electronic book accessible from

<http://library.ied.edu.hk/record=b1945962~S5>

May, T. (2011). *Social Research Issues, Methods and Process*. Maidenhead, UK: McGraw-Hill/Open University Press. This is an electronic book accessible from <http://library.ied.edu.hk/record=b1873015~S5>

Smith, K. (2009). *Doing your Undergraduate Social Science Dissertation*. London: Routledge. This is an electronic book accessible from <http://library.ied.edu.hk/record=b1781821~S5>

Walliman, N.S.R. (2011). *Research Methods: The Basics*. New York: Routledge. This is an electronic book accessible from <http://library.ied.edu.hk/record=b1945965~S5>

6. Recommended Readings

Hancke, B. (2009). *Intelligent Research Design: A Guide for Beginning Researchers in the Social Sciences*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Sarantakos, S. (2005). *Social Research (3rd Edition)*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Sprinz, D.F. & Wolinsky-Nahmias, Y. (Eds.). (2004). *Models, Numbers and Cases: Methods for Studying International Relations*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

Staines, G.M., Johnson, K, and Bonacci, M. (2008). *Social Sciences Research: Research, Writing, and Presentation Strategies for Students*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

Thomas, D.R. and Hodges, I.D. (2010). *Designing and Managing Your Research Project: Core Skills for Social and Health Research*. Los Angeles: Sage.

White, P. (2009). *Developing Research Questions: A Guide for Social Scientists*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

7. Related Web Resources

Internet for Social Research Methods

<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/tutorial/socialresearchmethods/>

Research Methods Knowledge Base: Road Map

<http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/kbroad.php>

8. Related Journals

Nil

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

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