THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title: Master of Social Sciences in Global Hong Kong Studies
Programme QF Level: 6
Course Title: From Area to Global Studies: Conceptual Foundations and Selected Issues
Course Code: SSC6265
Department: Social Sciences
Credit Points: 3
Contact Hours: 39
Pre-requisite(s): Nil
Medium of Instruction: English
Course Level: 6

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 seeks to offer students the concepts and theories in global and area studies as the building blocks for their study of the related issues and themes. Starting from the origin of area studies as an academic field in the postwar era, it shall trace the changing fashions in the study of developing world and how contemporary social and political circumstances prompted our academic endeavour to shift from area to global studies. Selected issues from East Asian development will also be discussed to illustrate the understanding of Hong Kong development from a global and comparative perspective.

2. **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

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

- **CILO 1** demonstrate knowledge of the key concepts and theories in global and area studies
- **CILO 2** apply the skills and methods to study related themes and issues
- **CILO 3** revisit the concepts and theories through practices
- **CILO 4** appreciate the diverse cultures and multiple perspectives in global and area studies

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Content</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Suggested Teaching &amp; Learning Activities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global and area studies: A Genealogy</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,3,4}$</td>
<td>Literature review, textual inquiry, discussion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The methodologies of global and area studies: quantitative and qualitative approaches</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,3}$</td>
<td>Video analysis, Literature review, textual inquiry, discussion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major conceptual frameworks for global and area studies:</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,3,4}$</td>
<td>Literature review, Video-analysis, debate, discussion, co-operative learning, web-research, group presentation.</td>
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<td>i) Modernization</td>
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<td>ii) Dependency</td>
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<td>iii) World-system</td>
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<td>iv) Nation-states and institutions</td>
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<td>v) Globalization and Neoliberalism</td>
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<td>Illustrating global and area studies: Comparative perspectives on the postwar rise of East Asia in global development</td>
<td>$CILO_{2,3,4}$</td>
<td>Workshops/seminar, guest lectures, textual analysis, field and site-based learning, object-based inquiry, web-search,</td>
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<td>Course Content</td>
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<td>ii) The East Asian NIEs</td>
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<td>archive research.</td>
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<td>iii) China and the Belt and Road Initiatives</td>
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<td>iv) Educational Systems</td>
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<td>Putting concepts and methods in practice: forging a student-directed research</td>
<td>$CILO_{2,3,4}$</td>
<td>Group presentations, seminars, workshops, guest lectures, reflections, concept reconstruction, literature review.</td>
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<td>agenda of global and area studies</td>
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4. **Assessment**

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<tr>
<th>Assessment Tasks</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>CILO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Class Performance</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,4}$</td>
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<td>2. Exercise in Problem-based: Learning: Students will be asked to address a</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,2,3,4}$</td>
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<tr>
<td>real-world development problem by using the concepts and tools presented in</td>
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<td>World Bank’s World Development Report 2017. It is one of the most cutting edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>report/manual on how to tackle developmental issues from an institutional</td>
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<td>perspective. A group report and presentation will be required.</td>
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<td>3. Individual Research Proposal (no more than 3000 words): Select an issue</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$CILO_{1,2,3,4}$</td>
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<td>from global and area studies, start from concrete empirical puzzle in selected</td>
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<td>crossnational and/or global contexts, review the related theory (theories) and</td>
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<td>relevant literature, design a research with specific research methods, and</td>
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<td>formulate broad research questions.</td>
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5. **Required Text(s)**

Nil

6. **Recommended Readings (Tentative)**

(Detailed and updated list of readings will be available in our course’s Moodle e-learning website. Entry via our EduHK portal: [https://portal.eduhk.hk/](https://portal.eduhk.hk/))
6.1 **Global and area studies: A Genealogy**


6.2 **The Methodologies of global and area studies: quantitative and qualitative approaches**


6.3 **Major conceptual frameworks for global and area studies**


6.4 Illustrating global and area studies: Comparative perspectives on the postwar rise of East Asia in global development


6.5 Practising global and area studies


7. **Related Web Resources**

- Asia Association for Global Studies  
- GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies  
- Global Issues  
- Immigration Research Now  
  [https://sites.google.com/site/immigrationresearchnow/transnationalism/](https://sites.google.com/site/immigrationresearchnow/transnationalism/)
- Settler Colonial Studies Blog  
  [http://settlercolonialstudies.org/](http://settlercolonialstudies.org/)
- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy  
- The Postcolonial Literature and Culture Web  
- The Economist  
  [https://www.economist.com/](https://www.economist.com/)
- FT 中文网  

8. **Related Journals**

- *International Area Studies Review*
- *International Journal of Area Studies*
- *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*
- *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*
- *Journal of International and Global Studies*
- *New Global Studies*
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](https://www.eduhk.hk/re/modules/downloads/visit.php?cid=9&lid=89)). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

10. **Others**

    Nil

*March 2018*