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 : Political Development of Hong Kong
Course Code : SSC6268
Department : Social Sciences
Credit Points : 3
Contact Hours : 39
Pre-requisite(s) : Nil
Medium of Instruction : English
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 introduces to students the political institutions and the evolving political system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in a global context. It will explore the institutional, behavioural and cultural aspects of Hong Kong’s political development, such as the institutional design, the changing political culture and patterns of political participation, democratization, and the problems that the HKSAR government encounters in relation to socio-political changes in the world. The fundamentals of the Basic Law and its impacts on the political life and democratization of the HKSAR will also be examined. This course will principally capture the dynamics of Hong Kong’s political development from different angles, including (1) regime ideologies; (2) governing structures and institutions; (3) democratization and actors in Hong Kong politics and political culture in a global trend; and (4) selected issues in Hong Kong’s political development under this globalized world. Special attention will be paid to the China factor that has been shaping Hong Kong political development. Firstly, this course will identify the evolving regime ideologies adopted by the Hong Kong government in different periods. The instructor will compare the management approaches adopted by the British colonial and Hong Kong SAR governments. The concepts of “laissez-faire”, “positive non-interventionism” and “big market and small government” will be discussed. Another major coverage will be on the structure of Hong Kong SAR government and its policymaking and law-making. The role of political and social elites and interest groups in the policy processes of Hong Kong will be examined. Finally, selected key controversies will be selected for intensive analysis from a global perspective, including the anti-national education campaign, Occupy Central Movement, young legislators’ oath-taking controversies, as well as the latest controversies. Students will also be guided to understand the political development of Hong Kong politics by examining the multi-dimensional influences from Mainland China after the sovereignty retrocession in 1997.

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

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

   - **CILO1** Develop a fundamental understanding of the operation and the transformations of the political system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region;
   - **CILO2** Examine the dynamics, problems and challenges of the governance in Hong Kong and its relations with Mainland China;
   - **CILO3** Critically assess Hong Kong’s political development by using concrete examples and case studies;
   - **CILO4** Explore the interrelations between Mainland China and Hong Kong in various aspects of political development.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Content</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Suggested Teaching &amp; Learning Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regime Ideologies, the China Factor and External Influences</td>
<td>CILO 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Lectures, seminars, discussions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An overview of historical development of Hong Kong from its colonial status to the Special Administrative Region; management approaches of “positive ono-interventionism,” “laissez-faire” economy, “big market and small government,” “capitalist state” and Hong Kong’s relative autonomy; the role of the China factor and the external impacts on Hong Kong’s politics.

**Political Institutions in Hong Kong**
Topics will include the Chief Executive, the Executive Council, the Legislative Council, advisory committees, the civil service, the Basic Law, district administration, political parties, interest groups, the mass media, public opinion, and institutions that check the power of the executive, such as the Independent Commission Against Corruptions, the Student Commissions, the Commissioner for Administrative Complaints, the Equal Opportunities Commission, and the Privacy Commissioner’s Office.

**Political Actors, Participation and Culture**
Topics will include political actors such as students, the middle class, the working class and women, and the patterns and cultures of citizen participation.
Special attention will be paid to the continuities and changes of citizen participation in Hong Kong, including the 2014 civil disobedience and Occupy Central Movement and updated controversies.

### 4. Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Tasks</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>CILO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) 15-minute oral group presentation of written materials on a topic related to Hong Kong political development</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>CILO1, 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. **Required Text(s)**

Nil

6. **Recommended Readings**


Chan, Ming K. (ed.) (2008). *China’s Hong Kong Transformed: Retrospect and Prospects beyond the First Decade*. Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press.


Cheng, Joseph Y.S., ed. (2007). *The Hong Kong special administrative region in its first decade*. Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong.

Cheung B. L. A (2010). Repositioning the State and the Public Sector Reform Agenda: The Case of Hong Kong. In M. Ramesh, E. Araral Jr. and Xun Wu (eds). *Reasserting the Public in Public Services*, (pp. 79-100). Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.


Lam, Wai-man. (2004). *Understanding the Political Culture of Hong Kong: The Paradox of*
Activism and Depoliticization. Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe.

Lam, Wai Man (eds.) (2007) Contemporary Hong Kong Politics: Governance in the post-1997 era. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Lam Wai-man, Percy Luen-tim Lui, Wilson Wong (2012). Contemporary Hong Kong Government and Politics, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press (E-resources)


Lo, Shiu-hing. (2007). The Dynamics of Beijing and Hong Kong Relations. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press


Ma, Ngok. (2007). Political Development in Hong Kong: State, Political Society, and Civil Society. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.


Sing, Ming, ed. (2003). Hong Kong Government and Politics. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.


Young, Simon N.M., Richard Cullen (2010). Electing Hong Kong's Chief Executive, Hong Kong University Press (Google Book).

The Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China.


7. Related Web Resources
The Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
http://www.gov.hk/

China Leadership Monitor
http://www.hoover.org/publications/china-leadership-monitor
8. Related Journals

China Information
China Quarterly
Journal of Contemporary China
Pacific Affairs
Pacific 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

March 2018