

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	: Master of Public Policy and Management
Programme QF Level	: 6
Course Title	: Advanced Seminar in Higher Education Policy and Governance
Course Code	: PPG6017
Department/Unit	: Department of Social Sciences and Policy Studies
Credit Points	: 3
Contact Hours	: 39
Pre-requisite(s)	: Nil
Medium of Instruction	: EMI
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 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

The course aims at helping students develop competencies needed for conducting academic research. The course will provide a unique opportunity for students to conduct research, deliver presentation and engage in academic discussions. As researchers, students are required to conduct applied research studies on current higher education issues under the guidance of course instructor. As presenters, students are expected to present and defend their research studies in front of fellow classmates and course instructor. As discussants, students are required to actively participate in all the seminars by critically reviewing the research studies of fellow students. This course will facilitate the transition in the intellectual lives of postgraduates from course takers to independent researchers.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

- CILO₁* : Critically apply and synthesize various theories and research strategies in the development of an original and practical research project.
- CILO₂* : Compare and contrast different ways of presenting and defending research ideas and findings.
- CILO₃* : Share ideas and experiences on resolving difficulties in conducting research.

3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Course Introduction: Becoming a professional researcher.	<i>CILO₁₋₃</i>	Lecture and in-class discussions.
Consultation with academic supervisor.	<i>CILO₁₋₃</i>	Consultations with academic supervisor by making appointments.
Attending academic conferences/seminars in EdUHK.	<i>CILO₁₋₃</i>	Each team will be required to attend TWO academic conferences/seminars in EdUHK to observe how academic discussions are conducted in practice and submit reflection reports after the conferences/seminars.
Seminar presentation and discussion.	<i>CILO₁₋₃</i>	Each team will be required to give a 45-minute oral presentation on their major findings of their research studies in English, followed by a 15-minute question and answer session and further discussion in the class. By receiving comments from their supervisor and fellow students, the seminar presentation and discussion will help students polish their research reports before formal submission.

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
(a) Individual Essay Students are required to write 3,000-word essay based on a chosen topic of higher education policy related to the themes of guest lectures or as approved by the course instructor.	50%	<i>CILO₁₋₂</i>
(b) Seminar Presentation Students are required to work as a team and make an oral presentation on their research studies.	30%	<i>CILO₂</i>
(c) Seminar Discussion Students are required to actively participate in class discussion and provide useful feedback to other members of the class.	20%	<i>CILO₃</i>

5. Use of Generative AI in Course Assessments

Please select one option only that applies to this course:

☐ **Not Permitted:** In this course, the use of generative AI tools is not allowed for any assessment tasks.

☒ **Permitted:** In this course, generative AI tools may be used in some or all assessment tasks. Instructors will provide specific instructions, including any restrictions or additional requirements (e.g., proper acknowledgment, reflective reports), during the first lesson and in relevant assessment briefs.

6. Required Text(s)

Nil

7. Recommended Readings

Altbach, P.G., Reisberg, L., de Wit, H. (eds.) (2017). *Responding to Massification: Differentiation in Postsecondary Education Worldwide*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Aoun, J.E. (2017). *Robot-proof: Higher education in the age of artificial intelligence*. Cambridge: The MIT Press.

Babbie, Earl. (2013). *The Practice of Social Research*, 13th Edition. Australia: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Gleason, N.W. (2018). *Higher education in the era of the fourth industrial revolution*. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan.

Huisman, J., de Boer, H., Dill, D.D., Souto-Otero, M. (eds.) (2016). *The Palgrave International Handbook of Higher Education Policy and Governance*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Jeroen, H. and Malcolm, T. (Eds.). (2015). *Theory and method in higher education*

research. Bingley: Emerald.

Lucas, H.C. (2016). *Technology and the disruption of higher education*. Singapore: World Scientific.

Mok, K.H. and Neubauer, D. (2015). Higher education governance in crisis: A critical reflection on the massification of higher education, graduate employment and social mobility, *Journal of Education and Work*, 1-12.

Shin, J.C., Teixeira, P.N. (eds.) (2019) *Encyclopedia of International Higher Education Systems and Institutions*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Tight, T. Mok, K.H., Huisman, J. Morphew, C.C. (eds.) (2009) *The Routledge International Handbook of Higher Education*. New York: Routledge.

8. Related Web Resources

Name of the Web Page	Web Link
OECD Higher Education Programme	http://www.oecd.org/education/imhe/
Center for Global Higher Education	https://www.researchcghe.org/about/
Higher Education Policy Institute	https://www.hepi.ac.uk/

9. Related Journals

Higher Education Policy

Higher Education

Journal of Higher Education Policy and Management

Journal of Education and Work

Asian Pacific Education Review

European Journal of Education

Asia Pacific Journal of Education

Journal of Education Policy

Education Researcher

Journal of Comparative Education and Development

10. 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.

11. Others

Nil

Updated as of 16 July 2025