

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Liberal Studies Education
Programme QF Level	: 5
Course Title	: Liberal Arts Foundations I
Course Code	: SSC1165
Department	: Social Sciences and Policy Studies
Credit Points	: Three
Contact Hours	: 39
Pre-requisite(s)	: Nil
Medium of Instruction	: EMI
Course Level	: 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 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

This course is designed to provide students with basic background knowledge on economics and sociology in preparation for their study of more advanced courses in education for sustainability. This is a critical introduction on the basic concepts and substantive theory of sociology, and economic concepts and theories, which emphasize the analysis of issues that are part of our everyday experience.. The first part of the course aims to provide students with a fundamental understanding of economic concepts and theories, and let them learn how to apply these concepts and theories to analyze real-world economic problems and issues in our daily life. The second part of the course aims to equip students with the concepts theories (including the introduction of the Enlightenment thought and how its role in the development of sociological theory) and studies to understand social issues and to prepare them to explore the changing and globalized world from a critical, sociological, and reflexive perspective.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILO_s)

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

- CILO₁ Understand the different types of economic systems.
- CILO₂ Analyze social issues from an economic perspective.
- CILO₃ Demonstrate an understanding of social issues from critical and sociological perspectives and an awareness of diverse cultural values.
- CILO₄ Demonstrate an understanding of the social, cultural, and political dimensions of daily life and society.
- CILO₅ Develop critical thinking skills using multiple perspectives

3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Basic concepts and principles of economics b. Population and economic development c. Market structure and competition d. National income and indicators of economic performance; uses of government policy e. Economic growth and social development 	CILO _{1,2,5}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures: presentation and discussion of the frameworks, concepts, practices and synthesis of key references • Class discussions: students to present the chosen topics; comment on the presentations; discuss their views on chosen subject areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. The notion of ‘sociological imagination’ and its importance for exploring the social world in the context of globalization. g. The development of sociological theories and basic approaches to social inquiry. h. Contemporary social issues, such as social stratification, population and health, organizations and networks, poverty and social exclusion, and 	CILO _{3,4,5}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web and library search • Reading lecture notes and key references

ethnicity and migration, with emphasis on those aspects relevant to the study of globalization, development, and the environment.		
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4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILOs
a. In-class Involvement	10%	CILO _{1,2,3,4,5}
b. Presentation	20%	CILO _{1,2}
c. Research Paper	70%	CILO _{3,4,5}

5. Required Text(s)

Nil

6. Recommended Readings

Calhoun, Craig, Chris Rojek and Bryan Turner (2005). *The Sage Handbook of Sociology*. London: Sage Publications.

Harvey, David (2005). *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.

Gwartney, James A., Richard L. Stroup, Russell S. Sobel, and David A. Macpherson (2015). *Economics: Private and Public Choice* (15th edition). Stamford, CT, USA: Cengage Learning.

Mills, C. Wright (2000). *The Sociological Imagination*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.

Macionis, John J. (2012). *Sociology* (14th ed). Boston, Mass. ; Hong Kong: Pearson.

Samuels, Warren J., Jeff E. Biddle and John B. Davis (2003). *A Companion to the History of Economic Thought*. Malden, Mass. ; Oxford : Blackwell.

7. Related Web Resources

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation:

<http://www.apec.org/>

Hong Kong Economy:

<http://www.hkeconomy.gov.hk/>

Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

<http://www.info.gov.hk/hkma/>

World Bank:

<http://www.worldbank.org/>

8. Related Journals

Current Sociology. Sage.

Global Society. Routledge.

Journal of Social Issues. Wiley-Blackwell.

9. 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.

10. Others

Newspaper articles and video-clips on relevant issues

Updated: July 2019