

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	:	Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Policy Science and Management
Programme QF Level	:	5
Course Title	:	Capstone Project (Phase I): Applied Policy Analysis Consultancy (APAC) - Project
Course Code	:	SSC3256
Department	:	Asian and Policy Studies
Credit Points	:	3
Contact Hours	:	39
Pre-requisite(s)	:	Nil
Medium of Instruction	:	EMI
Course Level	:	3

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 focuses on preparing students to conduct an inquiry-based project in Capstone Project (Phase II). Applied Policy Analysis Consultancy (APAC): Project and Conference. It equips students with skills and knowledge in problem identification, design thinking, literature review, research methods, prototyping, ethical principles and the elements of research process within quantitative and qualitative approaches. Students will be required to form groups and prepare a research topic to be presented in the tutorials. They will then be required to write up a research proposal using the knowledge they learn and the comments gathered in the tutorials.

This course also prepares students to develop a proposal for conducting a project-based study. This course is a scoping project designed to (1) allow the development of a formal problem statement focused on a policy problem within an organisational context; (2) identify information resources necessary to address the policy organisation problem; (3) scope and identify a formal set of methods to be applied to the policy problem; (4) develop a time-line for project implementation and execution; and (5) present the formal proposal to the Academic Supervisor and other students in a mini-conference format design to help student enhance their proposals in readiness for implementation and execution.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

- CILO₁ Identify information resources necessary to address the policy organization problem;
- CILO₂ Demonstrate understanding of research process and problem solving Skills during the research process;
- CILO₃ Apply knowledge and skills on identifying research methods on problem-solving; and
- CILO₄ Demonstrate the ability to develop a time-line for project implementation and execution.

3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Information resources inventory, data collection and organization problem solving	CILO ₁₋₃	Lecture and tutorials, presentation, writing proposal
identify potential case study and apply relevant research methodology	CILO ₁₋₃	Lecture and tutorial, presentation, writing proposal
Formulate time line for project implementation	CILO ₁₋₄	Lecture and tutorial, presentation, writing proposal

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
(a) Group Presentation: Formally present the <i>Capstone Project (Phase I): APAC - Project</i> proposal to student participants in a ‘mini-conference’ for assessment and feedback (formal presentation with notes, relevant materials. Outline of methods and resources, anticipated implementation problems, implementation management strategies, etc.).	35%	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>
(b) Individual Research Proposal: Formally present the <i>Capstone Project (Phase I): APAC - Project</i> scoping proposal to the Academic Supervisor (3,000 words).	65%	<i>CILO₁₋₄</i>

5. Required Text(s)

Fischer, F., & Miller, G. (2007). *Handbook of public policy analysis: theory, politics, and methods*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press (Taylor and Francis)

6. Recommended Readings

Bardach, E. (2005). *A practical guide for policy analysis*. Washington, DC:Congressional Quarterly Press

Dunn, W. N. (2008). *Public policy analysis: An introduction*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Engeli, I. and Allison, C. R. (2014). *Comparative policy studies: conceptual and methodological challenges*. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.

George, A. and Bennet, A. (2005). *Case studies and theory development in social sciences*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.

King, G., Keohane, R. O. and Verba, S. (1994). *Designing social inquiry: scientific inference in qualitative research*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Kraft, M.E. and Furlong, S.R. (2004). *Public policy: politics, analysis, and alternatives*. Thousand Oaks, California: CQ Press.

7. Related Web Resources

Nil.

8. Related Journals

Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis

Journal of Public Policy

Public Policy and Administration

Research Methods in Public Policy

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.