

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS and SCIENCES (BASc)**

*These regulations apply to students admitted to the BASc curriculum in the academic year 2024-2025 and thereafter.*

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)

### Definitions

**ASC1**<sup>1</sup> In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of BASc, unless the context otherwise requires

‘Course’ means a course of study, with a credit value expressed as a number of credit-units as specified in the syllabus.

‘Credits’ means the value assigned to each course to indicate its study load relative to the total load under a degree curriculum. The study load refers to the hours of student learning activities and experiences, both within and outside the classrooms, and includes contact hours and time spent on assessment tasks and examinations.

‘Pre-requisite’ means a course or a group of courses which candidates must have completed successfully or a requirement which candidates must have fulfilled before being permitted to take the course in question.

### Admission to the degree

**ASC2** To be eligible for admission to the degree of BASc, candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
- (c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with the regulations and the syllabuses.

### Period of study

**ASC3** The curriculum shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies.

### Curriculum requirements and progression in curriculum

#### **ASC4**

- (a) Candidates shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula<sup>2</sup>, except that in the case of the Common Core Curriculum, only 24 credits shall be required, with one course from each Area of Inquiry.
- (b) Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits of courses.

<sup>1</sup> This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG 1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

<sup>2</sup> Specific requirements are spelt out in the syllabuses. Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), or equivalent, are exempted from taking “CAES1000 Core University English”. In exceptional circumstances, strong candidates who have achieved Level 4 may be considered for admission to the curriculum but they will be required to take “CAES1000 Core University English” as supplementary credits and complete 246 credits for graduation from the University.

- (c) Candidates shall successfully complete not fewer than 96 credits of courses for the major in Interdisciplinary Studies, including 12 credits of core courses, 12 credits of capstone experience requirement, 60 credits of Pathway courses and 12 credits of Internship.
  - (d) Candidates shall successfully complete 18 credits of BASc core courses.
  - (e) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies, or except in the final semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements may be fewer than 24 credits.
  - (f) Candidates may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, and/or further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of Studies, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 288 credits for the normative period of study specified in ASC3, save as provided for under ASC4(g).
  - (g) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of Studies may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 432 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in ASC3.
  - (h) Candidates shall not enrol in any introductory courses in the final year of study (except Common Core courses and Chinese Language Enhancement course).
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#### Selection of courses

**ASC5** Candidates who wish to change their selection of courses at the beginning of each semester may do so up to 2 weeks after the commencement of the semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons accepted by the Board of Studies, and candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade.

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#### Assessment

**ASC6** Candidates shall be assessed in each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 8 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

**ASC7** Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner

- (a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
- (b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
- (c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
- (d) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

**ASC8** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading.

**ASC9** There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

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## Discontinuation of studies

**ASC10** Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:

- (a) failed to complete 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
  - (b) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
  - (c) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in ASC3.
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## Absence from examination

**ASC11** Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall normally be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

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## Advanced standing

**ASC12** Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully in an approved institution of higher education before admission to the University in accordance with UG 2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Advanced credits shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

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## Credit transfer

**ASC13** Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of Studies, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

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## Award of the degree

**ASC14** To be eligible for award of the degree of BAsC, candidates shall have successfully completed the curriculum requirements as stipulated under Regulation ASC4:

- (a) achieved a Graduation GPA of 1.00 or above;
  - (b) passed a minimum of 240 credits, including the capstone experience and 18 credits of BAsC core courses; and
  - (c) satisfied the requirements in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.
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## Honours classification

### ASC15

- (a) Honours classification shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree in accordance with the following Graduation GPA (GGPA) scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values:

| <u>Class of honours</u> | <u>GGPA range</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| First Class Honours     | 3.60 – 4.30       |
| Second Class Honours    | (2.40 – 3.59)     |
| Division One            | 3.00 – 3.59       |
| Division Two            | 2.40 – 2.99       |
| Third Class Honours     | 1.70 – 2.39       |
| Pass                    | 1.00 – 1.69       |

- (b) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the degree may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in ASC15(a) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.
- (c) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the degree requirements shall be posted on Faculty noticeboards.

## SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

*These syllabuses apply to students admitted to the BASc curriculum in the academic year 2024-2025 and thereafter.*

## OBJECTIVES

The aim of this curriculum is to equip outstanding students with social and cultural intelligence, creative problem-solving (both qualitative and quantitative) skills and communication skills, and nurture them to apply interdisciplinary knowledge within a larger framework of ethical and social responsibility in addressing contemporary issues. This is an intrinsically integrated curriculum co-led and shared by the Faculties of Social Sciences, Arts, and Science.

On successful completion of the curriculum, students should be able to:

1. understand concepts and theories from the science, social sciences, arts and humanities to develop innovative ideas to address multifaceted problems in our increasingly interconnected world;
2. analyse and use the major theories in the new interdisciplinary fields;
3. apply the necessary critical thinking, creative problem solving and communication skills for effective work and collaboration with people from diverse backgrounds, and facilitate self-reflection and great understanding of others; and
4. harness the interdisciplinary knowledge and theory to improve human conditions and promote global citizenship.

## CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

1. The regulations specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for

completion of the BASc degree curriculum. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses. Candidates shall complete not fewer than 240 credits. They shall enrol in not fewer than 24 and not more than 30 credits of courses for each semester other than the final semester as specified in ASC4. The normal semester load is 30 credits.

2. Candidates are required to complete successfully the courses as prescribed in Regulation UG 5 “Requirements for Graduation” of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Candidates are required to complete 18 credits of BASc core courses.

## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

| Component                                                                              | No. of credits |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Interdisciplinary Curriculum (Major in Interdisciplinary Studies)*                     | 96             |
| 1) Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies I and II | 12             |
| 2) Interdisciplinary Capstone Course                                                   | 12             |
| 3) Courses from Two Pathways (60 credits)                                              |                |
| a. Society, Culture and Communication                                                  | 30             |
| b. Nature, Science and the Physical World                                              | 30             |
| 4) Internship (Social Innovation requirement)                                          | 12             |
| Common Core Courses                                                                    | 24             |
| Language Enhancement Courses                                                           | 12             |
| Non-credit bearing course(s) as required                                               | –              |
| BASc Core Courses                                                                      | 18             |
| Electives Courses (or Second Major)                                                    | 90             |
| Total:                                                                                 | 240^           |

\* This programme will not be offered to non-BASc students as a second major.

^ Candidates who are not exempted from Core University English (CUE) will be required to take CUE as supplementary credits and will thereby be required to accumulate 246 credits for graduation from the University.

### Personalised Concentration

Candidates may devise a well-articulated portfolio and declare a concentration for their undergraduate degree. To successfully complete the declaration of the personalised concentration, candidates are required to develop a Learning Plan and Intellectual Autobiography for the proposed concentration, and complete the equivalent of at least 60 credits from (i) Common Core Curriculum, (ii) Interdisciplinary Studies major pathways, (iii) additional major/minor, or (iv) free electives, which are relevant to the theme of their proposed personalised concentration. At least 24 out of the 60 credits should come from the Interdisciplinary Studies major pathways. The concentration is **optional**, and candidates can graduate with the major in Interdisciplinary Studies without declaring any concentration.

In consultation with other relevant parties, the Programme Director and the BASc academic staff would review and confirm the fulfilment of concentration by graduation. The Personalised Concentration is to be named by students in consultation with the BASc Programme Director. Neither the academic attainment profile nor the graduation certificate will show the concentration. The concentration title will only be recorded in the student’s transcript upon successful completion of the concentration. Candidates are encouraged to consult their Academic Advisers and the Programme Director to develop a concentration.

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### Common Core Courses (24 credits)

Candidates are required to complete 24 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum within the first three years of studies, comprising one from each Area of Inquiry.

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### Enhancement Courses (12 credits)

| Course                    | Language | Credits | Year of study |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|---------------|
| English in the Discipline | English  | 6       | 2 - 3         |
| Chinese                   | Chinese  | 6       | 2             |

Take one of the following English in the Discipline courses (6 credits)

- CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery
- CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports
- CAES9930. Research Writing in the Social Sciences
- CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures
- CAES9820. Academic English for Science Students
- CAES9821. Professional and Technical Communication for Statistical Sciences

Take one of the following Chinese Enhancement courses (6 credits)

- CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students
- CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students
- CSCI9001. Practical Chinese for Science Students
- CUND9001. Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers (for Putonghua-speaking students)
- CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong society (for Putonghua-speaking students)
- CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (for Putonghua-speaking students)
- CUND9004. Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students (for Putonghua-speaking students)

Candidates who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take the Chinese language enhancement course may apply to the Board of Studies for exemption and take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language course offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international and exchange students), or take an elective course in lieu.

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### BASc Core Courses (18 credits)

Candidates are required to complete 18 credits of the following core courses. These courses are to be jointly taken with students from all of the 4-year BASc curricula.

| Course   | Title                                                         | Credits | Year of study |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| BASC9001 | Approaching Interdisciplinarity: Knowledge Beyond Disciplines | 6       | 1             |

|          |                                     |   |   |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| STAT1016 | Data science 101 <sup>3</sup>       | 6 | 1 |
| DESN9002 | Sustainable leadership <sup>4</sup> | 6 | 2 |

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<sup>3</sup> STAT1016 is changed to SDST1016 starting from the 2025-26 academic year.

<sup>4</sup> DESN9002 will no longer be offered from the 2025-26 academic year and will be replaced by BASC9002, subject to approval.

### Interdisciplinary Curriculum (Major in Interdisciplinary Studies) (96 credits)

Candidates are required to take the following core courses:

| Course   | Title                                                | Credits | Year of study |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| BASC1001 | Interdisciplinary Methods of Research and Inquiry I  | 6       | 1             |
| BASC1002 | Interdisciplinary Methods of Research and Inquiry II | 6       | 1             |
| BASC4001 | Interdisciplinary Capstone Course                    | 12      | 4             |

### Internship (Social Innovation Requirement) (12 credits)

Candidates are required to complete FOSS2018, or a combination of **two** 6-credit endorsed experiential learning courses for fulfilling the Social Innovation requirement.

| Course   | Title                                      | Credits | Year of study                                                                    |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FOSS2018 | Social Innovation internship               | 12      | Has to be completed by the end of the second semester of the final year of study |
| FOSS2024 | Experiential Learning I – Field Immersion  | 6       |                                                                                  |
| FOSS2025 | Experiential Learning II – Advanced Praxis | 6       |                                                                                  |

### Courses from Two Pathways (60 credits)

Within each Pathway (a. Society, Culture and Communication; b. Nature, Science and the Physical World), students have to complete five elective courses (at year 1-4 level) across all three faculties. Specifically, they cannot take more than two courses from the same faculty for each pathway, or more than four courses from the same faculty in total for both pathways. While these are existing courses, academic tutors will work with candidates to integrate the material into an interdisciplinary perspective (e.g. through the Personalised Concentration). While some courses are listed on both Pathways, a successful completion of any one of these courses will count towards the requirement of one Pathway only.

Broadly speaking, courses within the *Society, Culture and Communication* Pathway teach students about the many ways of being human, the multiple signs and systems that help us understand the sociocultural aspects of human life and its diverse meanings. This includes various methods of inquiry, research and analysis of texts, discourses, signs, symbols, artefacts, arts, media and imagery. Courses within the *Nature, Science and Physical World* Pathway teach students about biological, physical, chemical and technological processes and structures, and the natural laws/systems that help us understand material life on earth (and other planets). This includes various methods of inquiry, research and analysis of entities, organisms, human and non-human animals, and scientific phenomena.

Candidates would have the opportunity to write their own study plan, to take courses outside of the two prescribed pathways, if they demonstrate a convincing ability to devise and follow a well-articulated study plan, as approved by the Board of Studies.



## **1. Society, Culture and Communication Pathway**

### **A. Faculty of Arts<sup>5</sup>**

#### ***Introductory Courses***

|           |                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARAB1021. | Introduction to Arabic culture (6 credits)                              |
| ARTH1001. | Introduction to Western art history (6 credits)                         |
| ARTH1006. | Art and society (6 credits)                                             |
| ARTH1008. | Introduction to the arts of Asia: Past and present (6 credits)          |
| CHIN1103. | Introduction to standard works in modern Chinese literature (6 credits) |
| CHIN1115. | Study of the Confucian canons and modern society (6 credits)            |
| CHIN1118. | Introduction to classical Chinese literature (6 credits)                |
| CHIN1119. | Introduction to literary studies (6 credits)                            |
| CHIN1120. | Global approaches to Chinese literature (6 credits)                     |
| CHIN1124. | Chinese dialects and sociolinguistics (6 credits)                       |
| CHIN1125. | Trends of modern Chinese literary thoughts (6 credits)                  |
| CHIN1126. | Introduction to classical Chinese popular literature (6 credits)        |
| CHIN1203. | Chinese history and culture in the twentieth century (6 credits)        |
| CHIN1206. | Introduction to Chinese thought (6 credits)                             |
| CHIN1207. | Traditional Chinese culture (6 credits)                                 |
| CHIN1211. | Economic and social development in China (6 credits)                    |
| CHIN1213. | Folklore and modern Chinese culture (6 credits)                         |
| CHIN1214. | Chinese and western cultures: a comparative study (6 credits)           |
| CHIN2127. | Classical Chinese fiction (6 credits)                                   |
| CHIN2241. | History of Chinese civilization (6 credits)                             |
| CLIT1008. | Ways of reading: Film, literature, and culture (6 credits)              |
| CLIT1009. | Introduction to postcolonialism and culture (6 credits)                 |
| CLIT1010. | Ways of thinking about culture and society (6 credits)                  |
| ENGL1014. | Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)             |
| ENGL1017. | Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)                            |
| ENGL1022. | Poetry past and present (6 credits)                                     |
| ENGL1024. | World literature (6 credits)                                            |
| ENGL1025. | Understanding narratives (6 credits)                                    |
| ENGL1033. | Intercultural communication (6 credits)                                 |
| ENGL1034. | Language and prejudice (6 credits)                                      |
| ENGL1042. | World Englishes (6 credits)                                             |
| ENGL1052. | Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)                             |
| ENGL1057. | Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)                     |
| GCIN1001. | Introduction to global creative industries (6 credits)                  |
| HIST1016. | The modern world (6 credits)                                            |
| HIST1017. | Modern Hong Kong (6 credits)                                            |

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<sup>5</sup> Faculty of Arts courses may not be offered every year.

|           |                                                                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HIST1021. | Introduction to modern legal history (6 credits)                              |
| HKGS1001. | Hong Kong's long twentieth century (6 credits)                                |
| LING1000. | Introduction to language (6 credits)                                          |
| LING2034. | Psycholinguistics (6 credits)                                                 |
| LING2056. | Sociolinguistics (6 credits)                                                  |
| MUSI1004. | Introduction to musics of the world (6 credits)                               |
| PHIL1034. | Ethics and politics, East and West: an introduction to philosophy (6 credits) |

### *Advanced Courses*

|           |                                                                                                      |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARAB2025. | Ancient Egypt (6 credits)                                                                            |
| ARTH2025. | The art of the Baroque ca. 1560-1720 (6 credits)                                                     |
| ARTH2026. | The age of revolution: Art in Europe, 1750-1840 (6 credits)                                          |
| ARTH2027. | The formation of modernity: Art in Europe, 1840-1890 (6 credits)                                     |
| ARTH2031. | Modern Western architecture (6 credits)                                                              |
| ARTH2051. | Art, politics, and society in modern China (6 credits)                                               |
| ARTH2055. | Crossing cultures: China and the outside world (6 credits)                                           |
| ARTH2056. | Museum studies workshop (6 credits)                                                                  |
| ARTH2076. | The sculptural object in early 20 <sup>th</sup> -century art (6 credits)                             |
| ARTH2118. | Finding “nature”: Ecology in Western modern art (6 credits)                                          |
| CAES2003. | Story Writing for Audio-visual Books (6 credits)                                                     |
| CAES2004. | Communication and Community Engagement through Podcasting (6 credits)                                |
| CHIN2149. | Chinese language from social perspectives (6 credits)                                                |
| CHIN2164. | The Analects and Chinese culture (6 credits)                                                         |
| CHIN2175. | Historical-comparative linguistics and Chinese dialectology (6 credits)                              |
| CHIN2176. | Chinese children’s literature (6 credits)                                                            |
| CHIN2234. | History of Chinese political institutions (6 credits)                                                |
| CHIN2235. | Sources and methodology (6 credits)                                                                  |
| CHIN2243. | History of Chinese science and civilization (6 credits)                                              |
| CHIN2266. | History education and Chinese culture (6 credits)                                                    |
| CHIN2268. | History of China-West cultural exchanges (6 credits)                                                 |
| CHIN2273. | Socio-economic history of China (6 credits)                                                          |
| CHIN2274. | History of material culture (6 credits)                                                              |
| CHIN2278. | Travel and economic development in Chinese history (6 credits)                                       |
| CLIT2007. | Film culture I (6 credits)                                                                           |
| CLIT2016. | The body in culture (6 credits)                                                                      |
| CLIT2105. | Marxism, critical theory, and cultural studies (6 credits)<br>(effective from AY2026-27 and onwards) |
| CLIT2025. | Visual Cultures (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)                                   |
| CLIT2026. | Digital culture (6 credits)                                                                          |
| CLIT2045. | Colonialism/postcolonialism (6 credits)                                                              |
| CLIT2050. | Globalization and culture (6 credits)                                                                |

|           |                                                                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CLIT2052. | Chinese urban culture (6 credits)                                                 |
| CLIT2061. | Narratives of the past in the contemporary moment (6 credits)                     |
| CLIT2064. | Hong Kong culture: Popular arts and everyday life (6 credits)                     |
| CLIT2065. | Hong Kong culture: Representations of identity in literature and film (6 credits) |
| CLIT2083. | Film art, language and culture (6 credits)                                        |
| CLIT2085. | Hong Kong: Community and cultural policy in the global context (6 credits)        |
| CLIT2087. | Modern Chinese culture and society: Rebellions and revolutions (6 credits)        |
| CLIT2088. | Critical approaches to film studies (6 credits)                                   |
| CLIT2095. | World, text, and critic (6 credits)                                               |
| CLIT2097. | Independent documentaries: Theory and practice (6 credits)                        |
| ENGL2002. | Language in society (6 credits)                                                   |
| ENGL2030. | New Englishes (6 credits)                                                         |
| ENGL2045. | Travel writing (6 credits)                                                        |
| ENGL2074. | Postcolonial readings (6 credits)                                                 |
| ENGL2075. | The idea of China (6 credits)                                                     |
| ENGL2097. | Imagining Hong Kong (6 credits)                                                   |
| ENGL2103. | Language and digital media (6 credits)                                            |
| ENGL2120. | Science fiction (6 credits)                                                       |
| ENGL2123. | Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)                                    |
| ENGL2129. | English as a language of science (6 credits)                                      |
| ENGL2134. | World literature and theory (6 credits)                                           |
| ENGL2136. | Cross-cultural discourses (6 credits)                                             |
| ENGL2138. | Language and globalization (6 credits)                                            |
| ENGL2183. | Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)                             |
| ENGL2185. | Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)                         |
| EUST2018. | Early modern Atlantic worlds, c. 1500-1800 (6 credits)                            |
| EUST3020. | The making of the West: From Descartes to Rorty (6 credits)                       |
| GCIN2002. | Commercializing creativity: A cultural critique (6 credits)                       |
| GEND2004. | Gender in visual and material culture (6 credits)                                 |
| HIST2031. | History through film (6 credits)                                                  |
| HIST2070. | Stories of self: History through autobiography (6 credits)                        |
| HIST2110. | China and the West (6 credits)                                                    |
| HIST2112. | Technologies of empire: Science, medicine and colonialism (6 credits)             |
| HIST2129. | Living through war: Society, culture and trauma (6 credits)                       |
| HIST2138. | Humanity in crisis: Humanitarianism in the modern world (6 credits)               |
| HIST2150. | Global capitalism: The last 100 years (6 credits)                                 |
| HIST2185. | A history of propaganda in East Asia (6 credits)                                  |
| HIST2190. | Animals in history (6 credits)                                                    |
| HIST2194. | Food and empire in colonial Asia (6 credits)                                      |
| HIST3065. | Workshop in historical research (6 credits)                                       |
| HKGS2009. | We are what we eat: Hong Kong food and foodways (6 credits)                       |

|           |                                                                                                               |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| JAPN2091. | Introduction to Pre-modern Japan (6 credits)                                                                  |
| KORE2028. | Society, culture, and politics of North Korea (DPRK) (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)       |
| KORE2033. | Modern and contemporary Korea: modernity and social change (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards) |
| KORE2035. | Society and thoughts in Korea (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)                              |
| KORE2036. | Korean society before 1900 (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)                                 |
| KORE2040. | Topics in Korean visual culture and cultural studies (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)       |
| LING2003  | Semantics: Meaning and grammar (6 credits)                                                                    |
| LING2030  | Morphology (6 credits)                                                                                        |
| LING2037  | Bilingualism (6 credits)                                                                                      |
| LING2048  | Language and cognition (6 credits)                                                                            |
| MUSI2015. | Popular music (6 credits)                                                                                     |
| PHIL2010. | Plato (6 credits)                                                                                             |
| PHIL2140. | Philosophy of social science (6 credits)                                                                      |

## **B. Faculty of Science**

### ***Introductory Courses***

|           |                                                   |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| BIOL1201. | Introduction to food and nutrition (6 credits)    |
| BIOL2101. | Principles of food chemistry (6 credits)          |
| EASC1401. | Blue Planet (6 credits)                           |
| EASC1403. | Geological heritage of Hong Kong (6 credits)      |
| ENVS1401. | Introduction to environmental science (6 credits) |
| ENVS2001. | Methods in environmental science (6 credits)      |
| ENVS2002. | Environmental data analysis (6 credits)           |
| PHYS1056. | Weather, climate and climate change (6 credits)   |

### ***Advanced Courses***

|           |                                                |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|
| ENVS3004. | Environment, society and economics (6 credits) |
| BIOL3216. | Food waste management (6 credits)              |
| BIOL3217. | Food, environment and health (6 credits)       |
| BIOL3218. | Food hygiene and quality control (6 credits)   |

## **C. Faculty of Social Sciences**

### ***Introductory Courses***

|           |                                                                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GEOG1012. | Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)              |
| SOCI1001. | Introduction to sociology (6 credits)                                           |
| SOCI1003. | Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)                                        |
| SOCI1004  | Introduction to Sociology: The World's on Fire (And Other Problems) (6 credits) |
| PSYC1001. | Introduction to psychology (6 credits)                                          |

|           |                                                                |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| PSYC1004. | Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits) |
| POLI1003. | Making sense of politics (6 credits)                           |

### *Advanced Courses*

|           |                                                                                                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BASC2001. | Leadership Development and Coaching: Essential Skills for Undergraduates (6 credits)                    |
| BASC2002. | Understanding Race and Racism: Histories, Biologies and Identities (6 credits)                          |
| BASC2003. | When AI Ethics becomes Global: When AI meets the Real World (6 credits)                                 |
| BASC3100. | Transformative learning and experiential integration in international contexts (6 credits)              |
| BASC3200. | Vulnerability Reframed: Unlocking Disability's Potential (6 credits)                                    |
| BASC3300. | Human, Animal and Planetary Wellness in Practice (6 credits)                                            |
| GEOG2030. | Global development (6 credits)                                                                          |
| GEOG2057. | Leisure and recreation in modern society (6 credits)                                                    |
| GEOG2078. | Cities and the urban world: A global introduction to urban geography (6 credits)                        |
| GEOG2132. | World cities (6 credits)                                                                                |
| GEOG3304. | Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)                                                                 |
| GEOG3417. | Health, wellbeing, place and GIS (6 credits)                                                            |
| GEOG3429. | Geographies of transpacific empire (6 credits)                                                          |
| GEOG3432. | GIS workshop (6 credits) (effective from AY2025-26 and onwards)                                         |
| POLI2106. | Introduction to international relations (6 credits)                                                     |
| POLI2107. | Introduction to political theory (6 credits)                                                            |
| POLI3010. | Democracy and its critics (6 credits)                                                                   |
| POLI3020. | Hong Kong politics (6 credits)                                                                          |
| POLI3059. | China and the world (6 credits)                                                                         |
| POLI3097. | Modernity and globalization (6 credits)                                                                 |
| POLI3160. | Web3.0 for Social Impact: An Innovative and Experiential Venture (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards) |
| PSYC2019. | Psychology of personality (6 credits)                                                                   |
| PSYC2020. | Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)                                                           |
| PSYC3052. | Advanced social psychology (6 credits)                                                                  |
| SOCI2019. | Modern culture and lifestyles (6 credits)                                                               |
| SOCI2044. | Economic sociology (6 credits)                                                                          |
| SOCI2053. | Youth culture (6 credits)                                                                               |
| SOCI2055. | Tourism, culture and society (6 credits)                                                                |
| SOCI2067. | Crime and the media (6 credits)                                                                         |
| SOCI2071. | Criminology (6 credits)                                                                                 |
| SOCI2073. | Global migration (6 credits)                                                                            |
| SOCI2077. | Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)                                      |
| SOCI2080. | Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)                                                       |
| SOCI2081. | Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)                                                             |

|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SOCI2084. | Globalization and culture (6 credits)                                                                                              |
| SOCI2087. | Urban society and culture (6 credits)                                                                                              |
| SOCI2091. | Sociology of culture (6 credits)                                                                                                   |
| SOCI3010. | Education and society (6 credits) (effective from AY2025-26 and onwards)                                                           |
| SOCI3024. | Modern social theory (6 credits)                                                                                                   |
| SOCI3069. | Crime and the city (6 credits)                                                                                                     |
| SOCI3100. | Culture and cognition (6 credits) (effective from AY2025-26 and onwards)                                                           |
| SOWK2109. | Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)                                                               |
| SOWK2119. | Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)                                                                                              |
| SOWK3106. | Use of creative arts in social work practice (6 credits)                                                                           |
| SOWK3131. | Encounter with embodiment: Therapeutic use of drama in social work settings (6 credits)                                            |
| SOWK3141. | Contemporary complementary and alternative psychosocial interventions for people with physical and mental health needs (6 credits) |

## **2. Nature, Science and the Physical World Pathway**

### **A. Faculty of Arts**

#### ***Introductory Courses***

|           |                                                                 |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENGL1036. | Meaning and metaphor (6 credits)                                |
| ENGL1055. | Language myths and realities (6 credits)                        |
| ENGL1056. | Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)          |
| GEND1001. | Introduction to Gender Studies (6 credits)                      |
| HIST1020. | Introduction to the history of gender and sexuality (6 credits) |
| LING1000. | Introduction to language (6 credits)                            |
| LING1004. | Language structure for language learning (6 credits)            |
| LING2004. | Phonetics: Describing sounds (6 credits)                        |
| LING2009. | Languages of the world (6 credits)                              |
| LING2034. | Psycholinguistics (6 credits)                                   |
| LING2050  | Grammatical description (6 credits)                             |
| PHIL1012. | Mind and knowledge: an introduction to philosophy (6 credits)   |
| PHIL1068. | Elementary logic (6 credits)                                    |

#### ***Advanced Courses***

|           |                                                                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARTH2031. | Modern Western architecture (6 credits)                                                          |
| ARTH2056. | Museum studies workshop (6 credits)                                                              |
| ARTH2092. | Photography in North America (6 credits)                                                         |
| ARTH2102. | The connecting sea: An introduction to East Mediterranean archaeology (6 credits)                |
| ARTH2109. | Art and life in ancient Rome: Pompeii and Herculaneum (6 credits)                                |
| ARTH2118  | Finding “nature”: Ecology in Western modern art (6 credits)                                      |
| CHIN2177. | Chinese Lexicology (6 credits)                                                                   |
| CHIN2264. | Chinese eroticism (6 credits)                                                                    |
| CLIT2016. | The body in culture (6 credits)                                                                  |
| CLIT2026. | Digital Culture (6 credits) (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards)                               |
| CLIT2058. | Histories of sexuality (6 credits)                                                               |
| CLIT2095. | World, text, and critic (6 credits)                                                              |
| CLIT2100. | Fugitive science: Science and technology studies (STS) approaches to facts and fakes (6 credits) |
| ENGL2120. | Science fiction (6 credits)                                                                      |
| ENGL2166. | English phonetics (6 credits)                                                                    |
| ENGL2185. | Health communication, ‘healthy’ communication (6 credits)                                        |
| GCIN2009. | Art worlds: Aesthetics, money, and markets (6 credits)                                           |
| GEND2010. | Feminist science and technology studies (6 credits)                                              |
| HIST2048. | The history of childhood and youth (6 credits)                                                   |
| HIST2077. | Eating history: Food culture from the 19 <sup>th</sup> century to the present (6 credits)        |
| HIST2112. | Technologies of empire: Science, medicine and colonialism (6 credits)                            |

|           |                                                                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HIST2115. | Sports and Chinese society (6 credits)                                              |
| HIST2116. | Oceans in history (6 credits)                                                       |
| HIST2122. | The history of sport in modern Europe (6 credits)                                   |
| HIST2137. | Pandemic!: Contagious histories (6 credits)                                         |
| HIST2140. | Health, medicine and society in late imperial and modern China (6 credits)          |
| HIST2172. | Revolutionizing health in modern China (6 credits)                                  |
| HIST2181. | A sea of stuff: Commerce and colonialism in the Indian Ocean, 1500-2000 (6 credits) |
| HIST2182. | Seascapes and skylines: Environment and infrastructure in Asia (6 credits)          |
| HIST2190. | Animals in history (6 credits)                                                      |
| HIST2193. | A history of energy and humankind: From deep history to the present (6 credits)     |
| HIST3027. | Natural disasters in history, 1700 to present (6 credits)                           |
| HIST3065. | Workshop in historical research (6 credits)                                         |
| LING2030  | Morphology (6 credits)                                                              |
| LING2036. | Child language (6 credits)                                                          |
| LING2037. | Bilingualism (6 credits)                                                            |
| LING2048. | Language and cognition (6 credits)                                                  |
| LING2053. | Language and the brain (6 credits)                                                  |
| LING2055. | Reading development and reading disorders (6 credits)                               |
| LING2062. | Experimental syntax (6 credits)                                                     |
| LING2065. | Endangered languages: Issues and methods (6 credits)                                |
| LING2066. | Variation analysis (6 credits)                                                      |
| LING2067. | Natural language processing (6 credits)                                             |
| LING2068. | Computational approaches to language (6 credits)                                    |
| LING2069. | Origins of language (6 credits)                                                     |
| LING2070. | Historical linguistics: Languages, genes and human migrations (6 credits)           |
| MUSI2059. | Music, mind, and body                                                               |
| PHIL2000. | Tools for Philosophers (6 credits)                                                  |
| PHIL2045. | Subjectivity (6 credits)                                                            |
| PHIL2100. | Paradoxes of decision (6 credits)                                                   |
| PHIL2101. | Paradoxes of Cooperation (6 credits)                                                |
| PHIL2105. | Vagueness, indeterminacy, and uncertainty (6 credits)                               |
| PHIL2110. | Knowledge (6 credits)                                                               |
| PHIL2115. | Skepticism and relativism (6 credits)                                               |
| PHIL2130. | Philosophy of science (6 credits)                                                   |
| PHIL2140. | Philosophy of social science (6 credits)                                            |
| PHIL2210. | Metaphysics (6 credits)                                                             |
| PHIL2217. | Issues in contemporary metaphysics (6 credits)                                      |
| PHIL2220. | The mind (6 credits)                                                                |
| PHIL2230. | Philosophy and cognitive science (6 credits)                                        |
| PHIL2245. | Philosophy and emotions (6 credits)                                                 |
| PHIL2310. | Theories of morality (6 credits)                                                    |



|           |                                                   |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| PHIL2312. | Probability, epistemology, and ethics (6 credits) |
| PHIL2315. | Value theory (6 credits)                          |
| PHIL2320. | Happiness (6 credits)                             |
| PHIL2341. | Bioethics (6 credits)                             |
| PHIL2369. | Environmental philosophy (6 credits)              |
| PHIL2510. | Logic (6 credits)                                 |
| PHIL2511. | Paradoxes (6 credits)                             |
| PHIL2520. | Philosophy of logic (6 credits)                   |
| PHIL2900. | Formal epistemology (6 credits)                   |

## **B. Faculty of Science**

### ***Introductory Courses***

|             |                                                                 |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| BIOL1110.   | From molecules to cells (6 credits)                             |
| BIOL1309.   | Evolutionary diversity (6 credits)                              |
| BIOC2600. / | Basic biochemistry (6 credits) <b><u>OR</u></b>                 |
| BIOL2220.   | Principles of biochemistry (6 credits)                          |
| BIOL1201.   | Introduction to food & nutrition (6 credits)                    |
| BIOL2306.   | Ecology and evolution (6 credits)                               |
| CHEM1042.   | General chemistry I (6 credits)                                 |
| CHEM2441. / | Organic chemistry I (6 credits) <b><u>OR</u></b>                |
| CHEM2442.   | Fundamentals of organic chemistry (6 credits)                   |
| EASC1020.   | Introduction to climate science (6 credits)                     |
| EASC1401.   | Blue Planet (6 credits)                                         |
| EASC2401.   | Fluid/solid interactions in earth processes (6 credits)         |
| EASC2404.   | Introduction to atmosphere and hydrosphere (6 credits)          |
| ENVS1301.   | Environmental life science (6 credits)                          |
| ENVS1401.   | Introduction to environmental science (6 credits)               |
| ENVS3313    | Environmental oceanography (6 credits)                          |
| MATH1009.   | Basic Mathematics for Business and Economics (6 credits)        |
| MATH1011.   | University mathematics I (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards) |
| MATH1013.   | University mathematics II (6 credits)                           |
| PHYS1055.   | How things work (6 credits)                                     |
| PHYS1056.   | Weather, climate and climate change (6 credits)                 |
| SCNC1111.   | Scientific method and reasoning (6 credits)                     |
| SCNC1112.   | Fundamentals of modern science (6 credits)                      |

### ***Advanced Courses***

|           |                                                             |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| BIOL3204. | Nutrition and the life cycle (6 credits)                    |
| BIOL3205. | Human physiology (6 credits)                                |
| BIOL3303. | Conservation Biology (effective from AY2026-27 and onwards) |
| BIOL3401. | Molecular biology (6 credits)                               |
| BIOL3402. | Cell biology and cell technology (6 credits)                |
| BIOL3403. | Immunology (6 credits)                                      |
| BIOL4411. | Plant and food biotechnology (6 credits)                    |

|             |                                                                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CHEM3141.   | Environmental chemistry (6 credits)                                                  |
| CHEM3242.   | Food and water analysis (6 credits)                                                  |
| CHEM3441. / | Organic chemistry II (6 credits) <u>OR</u>                                           |
| CHEM3442.   | Organic chemistry of biomolecules (6 credits)                                        |
| EASC3415.   | Meteorology (6 credits)                                                              |
| ENVS3010.   | Sustainable energy and environment (6 credits)                                       |
| ENVS3020.   | Global change ecology (6 credits)                                                    |
| ENVS3042.   | Pollution (6 credits)                                                                |
| ENVS4110.   | Environmental remediation (6 credits)                                                |
| SDST1600.   | Statistics: ideas and concepts (6 credits) (effective from<br>AY2025-26 and onwards) |
|             | <i>(*Students are strongly recommended to enrol in Semester 2)</i>                   |

### C. Faculty of Social Sciences

#### *Introductory Courses*

|           |                                                                      |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GEOG1003. | Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)                 |
| GEOG1020. | Modern maps in the age of big data (6 credits)                       |
| PSYC1001. | Introduction to psychology (6 credits)                               |
| PSYC1004. | Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)       |
| SOWK1004. | Human behaviour and the social environment I (6 credits)             |
| SOWK1012. | Communication and counselling skills in everyday life<br>(6 credits) |
| SOWK1015. | Introduction to social policy and social development (6 credits)     |

#### *Advanced Courses*

|           |                                                                                               |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BASC2003. | Turning left, Turning Right: When AI Ethics becomes Global (6<br>credits)                     |
| BASC3100. | Transformative learning and experiential integration in<br>international contexts (6 credits) |
| BASC3200. | Vulnerability Reframed: Unlocking Disability's Potential (6<br>credits)                       |
| BASC3300. | Human, Animal and Planetary Wellness in Practice (6 credits)                                  |
| GEOG2013. | Sustainable development: introduction and quantification (6<br>credits)                       |
| GEOG2090. | Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)                                    |
| GEOG2126. | Understanding China: the land and the people (6 credits)                                      |
| GEOG2127. | Environmental management (6 credits)                                                          |
| GEOG2136. | Political geography: International relations and the world<br>economy (6 credits)             |
| GEOG2138. | Hong Kong's environment: Issues and policies (6 credits)                                      |
| GEOG2150. | Introduction to China's environmental and sustainable<br>development issues (6 credits)       |
| GEOG2161  | Sustainability assessment, analysis and management (6 credits)                                |
| GEOG3205. | Environmental hazards (6 credits)                                                             |
| GEOG3207. | Environmental management: Impact assessment (6 credits)                                       |
| GEOG3213. | Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)                                        |

|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GEOG3214. | Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)                                                             |
| GEOG3304. | Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)                                                                                            |
| GEOG3426. | Social networks and geography (6 credits)                                                                                          |
| POLI2107. | Introduction to political theory (6 credits)                                                                                       |
| POLI3039. | Public policy analysis (6 credits)                                                                                                 |
| POLI3080. | Global political economy (6 credits)                                                                                               |
| POLI3121. | Environmental policy (6 credits)                                                                                                   |
| PSYC2007. | Cognitive psychology (6 credits)                                                                                                   |
| PSYC2009. | Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)                                                                                     |
| PSYC2022. | Biological psychology (6 credits)                                                                                                  |
| PSYC2035. | Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)                                                                                 |
| PSYC2038. | Psychology of language (6 credits)                                                                                                 |
| PSYC2051. | Perception (6 credits)                                                                                                             |
| PSYC2062. | Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)                                                                                        |
| PSYC2065. | Health psychology (6 credits)                                                                                                      |
| PSYC2066. | Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)                                                                                       |
| PSYC2067. | Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)                                                                                          |
| PSYC2101. | Foundations of neuroscience I (6 credits)                                                                                          |
| PSYC2102. | Seminars in neuroscience (6 credits)                                                                                               |
| PSYC2110. | Developmental neuroscience (6 credits)                                                                                             |
| PSYC2111. | Neurobiological basis of psychological issues (6 credits)                                                                          |
| PSYC3054. | Human neuropsychology (6 credits)                                                                                                  |
| PSYC3061. | Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)                                                                                          |
| PSYC3068. | Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)                                                                                          |
| SOWK2023. | Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)                                                                                      |
| SOWK2111. | Addictive behaviour (6 credits)                                                                                                    |
| SOWK2131. | Behavioural Economics for Social Change (6 credits)                                                                                |
| SOWK3091. | Mental health sciences and society (6 credits)                                                                                     |
| SOWK3136. | Applications of big data analytics in social sciences (6 credits)                                                                  |
| SOWK3141  | Contemporary complementary and alternative psychosocial interventions for people with physical and mental health needs (6 credits) |

Besides fulfilling the above requirements, it is optional for candidates to pursue another major or minor. Another major is defined as completing successfully not fewer than 72 nor more than 96 credits of courses in a particular programme including all pre-requisites unless otherwise specified. Candidates may opt for another major offered by the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Social Sciences or other Faculties, and may choose to overload by 6 credits for a 96-credit major.

(For detailed requirements of majors and course descriptions, please refer to the syllabuses of the respective programmes.)

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**Note:**

- (a) Course registration will take place before the commencement of each semester. Candidates are advised to consult relevant teachers on the suitable combinations of courses and to adhere closely to the normal study pattern. Less suitable combinations of courses may not be permitted because of timetabling difficulties. Courses listed in the syllabuses may not necessarily be offered every year; depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered. Candidates may change their course selection during the two-week add/drop period which is scheduled at the beginning of each semester. Requests for changes beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable by the Board of Studies. Candidates' withdrawal from any course without permission will result in a fail grade. In course registration, candidates should pay special attention to the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of courses as specified in the syllabuses. A prerequisite is a course which candidates must have completed in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the Head of Department before being permitted to take a course in question. A co-requisite is a course which candidates must take at the same time as the course in question.
- (b) Candidates should complete the Common Core Courses, language enhancement and the introductory courses by the end of the sixth semester.
- (c) Candidates should ensure that they have taken the relevant introductory course(s) for the subject in which they intend to major.
- (d) For the major and minor programmes, course selection is subject to the compliance with prescribed requirements and acceptance by the Heads of Department/staff concerned.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Interdisciplinary Curriculum Courses

#### **BASC1001 Interdisciplinary Methods of Research and Inquiry I (6 credits)**

#### **BASC1002. Interdisciplinary Methods of Research and Inquiry II (6 credits)**

Being able to articulate our ideas as well as making effective analysis of issues via the use of qualitative and quantitative methods or mixed-method play an important role in many disciplines. The course will cover: 1) The study of epistemology in an interdisciplinary context – “knowing the world through the qualitative and quantitative perspective”, 2) Methodological approaches of investigation (e.g., phenomenological and anthropological studies, mathematical modelling and essential programming skills), and 3) Specific topics for demonstration purpose which include but are not limited to programme evaluation, gender studies and performance arts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **BASC4001. Interdisciplinary Capstone Course (12 credits)**

The Capstone Project is a 12-credit compulsory course for Bachelors of Arts and Sciences (BASc) students. The course is offered in the final year of students' degrees although students are advised to begin thinking about their capstone in their penultimate year. Students will typically begin the course in the autumn semester and continue into the spring semester. This course will mostly involve independent work on the part of the student but students will also

find a supervisor who specialises in their area of interest and they will be co-supervised by a faculty member from the BASc programme too. There will also be small-group workshops where students will be introduced to the capstone, the requirements will be discussed, students can share and refine their ideas with one another and relevant guest speakers will be invited. Assessment is by 100% coursework, including a presentation of the project plan, the project itself and a knowledge exchange presentation applicable to a lay audience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

## **BASc Core Courses**

### **BASC9001. Approaching Interdisciplinarity: Knowledge Beyond Disciplines (6 credits)**

Can you think of a time when something you ‘knew’ turned out to be wrong? How did you find out, and how did it change what you thought or how you saw reality? From childhood beliefs to urban legends, AI-generated videos or financial scams, knowledge shapes how individuals and societies understand reality, influencing beliefs, behaviors, and decision-making across populations. Yet, knowledge is never fixed or simple; it is produced, shared, and contested through social, cultural, and technological systems, and evolves as new evidence and perspectives emerge.

In this course, we explore how to make sense of such complexity through interdisciplinary thinking, drawing on critical and contextual analysis, systems and design thinking, communication, teamwork, and reflection on the students’ own learning and assumptions. Anchored in the Hong Kong context, students will examine complex societal challenges affecting diverse populations, working collaboratively to analyze interconnected issues, consider multiple stakeholder perspectives, and co-create innovative and context-sensitive solutions. The course prepares students to navigate uncertainty, think across disciplinary and societal boundaries, and contribute meaningfully to addressing complex problems in a rapidly changing world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **DESN9002. Sustainable leadership (6 credits)**

*\* This course will no longer be offered from the 2025-26 academic year onwards and will be replaced by BASC9002, subject to approval.*

“Leadership” often conjures up images of hierarchy, the top down power that creates unnecessary tension between the haves and the have nots. Such leadership can exacerbate social inequalities, alienation and environmental destruction. In a society that is increasingly connected, and evolving ever rapidly, this form of centralised concentrated leadership cannot answer to change fast enough.

So, what kind of leadership do we need to guarantee humans are best able to care for and support each other and the environment? What are the other models of leadership we need? Where will this change come from? How will we adapt and evolve the current conception of leadership towards a more sustainable world? What is the difference between "leadership", "Thought Leadership" and "Sustainable Leadership"?

It is clear that our generation has the duty to reinvent leadership and implement it in society overall. The University of Hong Kong Bachelor of Arts and Science (BASc) are uniquely positioned to address such questions galvanising strong domain knowledge in science, technology, finance, design and social sciences.

Hong Kong and the world needs a new generation of leaders that understand empathy, interdependency, that is creative, resilient, visionary, and highly cooperative. Such qualities are better learned by experience than merely by theory. Not only is it about acquiring knowledge, but it is really about creating the knowledge about the new form of leadership we need.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **STAT1016. Data science 101 (6 credits)**

*\*STAT1016 is changed to SDST1016 starting from the 2025-26 academic year.*

The course introduces basic concepts and methodology of data science to junior undergraduate students. The teaching is designed at a level appropriate for all undergraduate students with various backgrounds and without pre-requisites.

Students will engage in a full data work-flow including collaborative data science projects. They will study a full spectrum of data science topics, from initial investigation and data acquisition to the communication of final results.

Specifically, the course provides exposure to different data types and sources, and the process of data curation for the purpose of transforming them to a format suitable for analysis. It introduces elementary notions in estimation, prediction and inference. Case studies involving less-manicured data are discussed to enhance the computational and analytical abilities of the students.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **English Language Enhancement Courses**

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#### **CAES9921. Great Speeches: Rhetoric and Delivery (6 credits)**

This 6-credit course aims to enhance students' public speaking skills through understanding the influences of great speeches on social thought and political movements and through analysing the argument structures, rhetorical devices as well as language choices of a range of classic speeches or speech texts. Students will acquire deeper insights into the processes that persuasion and argumentation. Student also have opportunities to apply the rhetorical skills and techniques to improve their speaking skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **CAES9922. Language, Genre and Reports (6 credits)**

In this 6-credit course students will explore the broad genre of report and proposal writing and

the sub-genres of reports and proposals within the social sciences from both academic and professional perspectives. It focuses on the rhetorical functions, moves and linguistic patterns of different types of reports and proposals. Through a case-based collaborative approach students investigate social issues and identify genre features while engaging in critical discussions with each other.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **CAES9930. Research Writing in the Social Sciences (6 credits)**

This 6-credit course aims to help year 3 students in Geography, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology (and any other Social Sciences programmes) to develop writing skills essential for independent learning projects (such as capstone projects and final year theses or dissertations). Students will be introduced to the principles underlying research as well as academic writing for projects involving collection and analysis of empirical data. They will also be given practice opportunities to apply these in their own writing.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA and BASC students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, American Studies, Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, China Studies, Comparative Literature, European Studies, Art History, Gender Studies, Global Creative Industries, Hong Kong Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, a modern language, and Music. The primary aim of CAES9201 is to enable students to read texts on cultures, history and politics, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **CAES9820. Academic English for Science Students (6 credits)**

This 6-credit English-in-the-Discipline course aims to develop students' professional and technical communication skills for disciplinary studies in the sciences. There are three main components in the course: 1) Writing a popular science article 2) An oral presentation and 3) Independent language learning. Students will learn rhetorical skills for presenting and explaining scientific concepts to a cross-disciplinary and non-specialist audience in both written and spoken communication. Students will also be given an opportunity to design a personalised language learning plan, carry out the plan and reflect on their own independent language learning experience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **CAES9821 Professional and Technical Communication for Statistical Sciences (6 credits)**

This 6-credit English-in-the-Discipline course aims to develop students' professional and

technical communication skills for disciplinary studies in mathematical sciences. There are two main components in the course: 1). Case study report writing, 2). professional oral presentation. Students will learn rhetorical skills for presenting and explaining mathematical and statistical data and trends, and justifying analyses and recommendations convincingly in both written and spoken communication. This will be achieved through analysing samples of case study reports and presentations using a genre-based approach.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Chinese Language Enhancement Courses**

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### **CSSC9001. Practical Chinese for Social Sciences Students (6 credits)**

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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### **CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students (6 credits)**

This course is designed to enhance the students' competence in the use of Chinese in the workplace. It helps students to master the techniques of writing different types of practical writings such as emails, business letters, brochures, leaflets, reports and proposals. There are drilling practices to familiarize the students with simplified Chinese characters frequently used in the workplace context. This course will be offered in the second semester of the third year.

Assessment: 40% professional writing practices, 10% tutorial discussions, 50% examination.

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### **CSCI9001. Practical Chinese for Science Students (6 credits)**

This course aims to enhance the students' competence using Chinese for professional communication. It helps the students to master the techniques of writing different types of documents such as memos, emails, letters, announcements, notice, brochures, leaflets, and reports. In addition, topics addressing presentation and discussion techniques, the style and rhetoric of reader-based writings are included to heighten the students' linguistic sensitivity.

Assessment: 50% assignment, 50% examination.

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### **CUND9001. Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers (6 credits)**

This intensive Cantonese language course is designed for Mandarin (Putonghua) speakers who have no prior knowledge of Cantonese. The course aims to assist students in mastering Jyutping, the Cantonese romanization system, while simultaneously cultivating students' ability to communicate effectively in Cantonese, both orally and in written form, across a variety of situational conversations. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to practical sentence



structures and a wide range of useful vocabulary related to various aspects of daily life. Furthermore, the curriculum allows students to gain insight into Hong Kong culture. Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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**CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (*for non-Cantonese Speaking Students*) (6 credits)**

Featuring problem-based learning (PBL) and collaborative learning approaches, this course aims to help students, through seminars and cases-based workshops, develop the ability to use the Chinese language effectively in the workplace. A key focus is on the use of Putonghua in presenting information for audiences. Essential techniques for producing office documents as well as reports will be discussed. Training in reading and writing the correct forms of traditional and simplified Chinese characters will also be provided.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (*for non-Cantonese Speaking Students*) (6 credits)**

Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course enables students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong Chinese, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Mandarin, to strengthen their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and people in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**CUND9004. Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students (6 credits)**

This course aims to cultivate non-local Mandarin-speaking students' logical thinking and critical thinking skills. Through the exploration of various interdisciplinary knowledge topics, students are encouraged to analyze and evaluate information, such as a variety of the essays mainly focusing on the important social and economic issues, as well as the movies released between 1995 and the present. The students will also be provided with opportunities to engage in writing, group discussions and presentation, allowing them to practice their critical thinking skills and develop their ability to express their thoughts effectively using Mandarin. This course will construct a coherent, sustainable, and in-depth content to help students build strong arguments, enhance their lexical and syntactic knowledge, as well as enhance their ability to analyze information, construct well-reasoned arguments, and make informed decisions.

Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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**Internship Course**

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**FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)**

To fulfil the graduation requirement under the theme of ‘Social Innovation’, students will begin their local or non-local internships after completing the intensive training workshops. They will be placed in local/international NGOs or other socially-focused public/private organizations during term time or the summer. They will be supervised and assessed by both an academic tutor and a workplace supervisor.

Social Innovation Internships seek to enhance students’ understanding of social issues through first-hand practical experience, and through applying knowledge and skills to real life situations. Students are expected to be socially aware and to have strong analytical, interpersonal and communication skills. On completion of the internship, students are required to give a project presentation to reflect on their work-related experiences, and in particular to demonstrate how they integrate academic theories with their work-related experiences. To complete the internship, students must write an extensive report critically reflecting on theories learned in class and analysing empirical findings and work experience gained from the internship.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **FOSS2024. Experiential Learning I – Field Immersion (6 credits)**

Experiential Learning I (EL-I) – Field Immersion is taken as a co-requisite of Experiential Learning II (EL-II) – Advanced Praxis. Students should complete EL-I first (or concurrently) to consolidate experiential learning through authentic workplace participation and guided reflection. The course EL-I provides the experiential foundation for theory-informed academic integration in Experiential Learning II.

The course provides structured and supervised internship experience in non-governmental, corporate, or government organisations aligned with social science disciplines. Through workplace immersion, students develop technical skills (e.g., data analysis, professional writing) and professional attributes such as ethics, initiative, adaptability, and workplace communication, while gaining first-hand exposure to organisational, social, and policy contexts and how social issues are encountered and addressed in practice.

The course emphasises learning through participation, observation, and guided reflection, and serves as the experiential foundation for academic integration for Experiential Learning II - Advanced Praxis.

While primarily designed for workplace internships, the course may also be offered through approved and supervised fieldwork experiences, subject to course requirements.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Co-requisite: FOSS2025

### **FOSS2025. Experiential Learning II - Advanced Praxis (6 credits)**

Experiential Learning II (EL-II) – Advanced Praxis is taken as a co-requisite of Experiential Learning I (EL-I) – Field Immersion. Students typically complete Experiential Learning I (EL-I) (or concurrently) to consolidate their experiential learning through structured workplace participation and guided reflection. Building on this foundation, (EL-II) focuses on advanced praxis — the critical integration of practice, theory, and reflection.

Drawing on internship or equivalent professional out of classroom experience, students engage in systematic analysis of workplace practices, organisational dynamics, and social innovation and social or policy issues using relevant social science theories, concepts, and analytical

frameworks.

The course emphasises sense-making, judgement, and articulation of learning, supporting students' ability to translate experience into academically grounded and professionally meaningful insights. Through structured academic activities and integrative assessments, students develop the capacity to critically evaluate practice and position themselves as reflective and socially responsive emerging professionals.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Co-requisite: FOSS2024

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## Faculty of Arts

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Students are advised to refer to the [BA syllabuses](#) for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.

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## Faculty of Science

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Students are advised to refer to the [BSc syllabuses](#) for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.

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## Faculty of Social Sciences

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### Advanced Course

#### **BASC2001. Leadership Development and Coaching: Essential Skills for Undergraduates (6 credits)**

The goal of this course is to prepare HKU students for a lifetime of engaged, responsible and active community involvement and leadership on- and off-campus and after graduation. Leadership is explored as an integral component of a student's career and life plan, focusing on the theory of relational leadership along with the importance of interpersonal skills and group dynamics. The methodology employed in this course will be one of knowledge acquisition, practice, and reflection through the exploration of theory, case study analysis, and active design of a performance-based leadership experience. The course is designed around the principles of team and organizational leadership, intercultural leadership, community leadership and personal leadership development. At the conclusion of this course, students will demonstrate understanding of leadership theory and research, an increased awareness of their personal leadership purpose, and an increased confidence and skill in practicing leadership in collegiate, workplace and/or community settings.

The learning has two components: an in-class Leadership in Theory learning and an experiential out-of-class Leadership in Practice component which is community-based. Leadership in Theory or in-class teaching is designed around reading assignments, case studies, in class discussions, guest lectures and group exercises. While the Leadership in Practice

component is a 6-week leadership journey in Hong Kong and/or the Greater Bay Area and participation in a guided field trip in a specific leadership journey focused on culture, science or society; and participation in an innovative group consulting project where they will design and implement a service-project.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **BASC2002. Understanding Race and Racism: Histories, Biologies and Identities (6 credits)**

In our global landscape, the study of race is a critical lens through which to understand human identity formation, interpersonal relationships, and broader social, political and economic systems and hierarchies. We know this as the COVID-19 pandemic devastated marginalized communities around the world only recently, just as the Black Lives Matter of 2013 gained new momentum in 2020. This course delves deeply into the multifaceted nature of race in contemporary society, emphasizing its historical roots while shedding light on pressing contemporary debates and issues. By examining a wide array of case studies, cultural productions and academic sources, this course seeks to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of how race influences and is influenced by broader social, political, and cultural phenomena.

Critical race theory and intersectionality make up the theoretical foundation of this course, offering students a rigorous framework to analyze systemic racism and its far-reaching impact on various aspects of society. Students will also learn about landmark legal cases like *Brown v. Board of Education* in the United States, the history of Indigenous land dispossession globally, and rights fought for by migrant domestic workers here in Hong Kong, underscoring the profound impacts legal systems have on underserved communities. Moreover, we dive into the sociological aspects of race and identity, breaking down terms like the ‘model minority myth’, ‘racialization’, ‘cultural appropriation’, ‘redlining’, ‘racial microaggressions’, ‘reparations’, and more. We will explore how experiences of racism manifest differently depending on the individual and the situation, often intersecting with other axes of oppression, bias, and violence such as classism, ableism, homophobia, misogyny, and discrimination based on religion, cultural aspects, educational background, nationality, and socioeconomic status.

We further engage in the historical roots of racial categories, and the evolution of racial ideologies over time and across continents. Specific case studies, like the transatlantic slave trade and the development of apartheid in South Africa, serve as important examples to demonstrate the global and historical dimensions of racial oppression. Students will consider how race and racism manifest in Asia too, where the theoretical scholarship on this topic is only just emerging. Whether in employment, housing or education, what race we are and the conversations we have around race play significant roles in granting privileges to some over others. By fostering a nuanced understanding of various dimensions of race, through compassionate discussion and careful analysis, students will walk away from this course with the confidence and an eagerness to engage with complex issues surrounding race in today’s world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **BASC2003. When AI Ethics becomes Global: When AI meets the Real World (6 credits)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) renews age-old, ethical dilemmas whilst giving rise to new ethical

and socio-political issues that will have enduring relevance for our increasingly technological societies. In revisiting Philippa Foot's philosophical "trolley problem" via driving automated vehicles, for example, the decision to programme a vehicle with forced choice to either turn left (killing everyone in the vehicle) or right (killing a pedestrian on the road) sparks heated debates. Globally, these debates and decisions concerning AI ethics are complexified when considering diverse ethical, legal, cultural and political factors. It is essential to understand how shifting ideologies have led to drastically different approaches to AI regulation and governance within and across nations, what the Anthropologist Christopher Pinney calls the "more than local, less than global" as a field for interdisciplinary investigation.

This course aims to address different challenges posed by AI from interdisciplinary perspectives, guiding students to appreciate the difficulties of effectively governing its development and deployment in Chinese societies, and contexts of the "Global South/Global North". Through the lenses of technology, ethics, law (local/international), international relations and cultural studies, we aim to equip students with analytical tools to dissect and analyse complicated AI governance frameworks that have been imposed by different states across the world. By surveying where and how AI governance succeeds whilst simultaneously troubleshooting the overlooked loopholes of its implementation, this course encourages students to understand: 1) How different disciplines play a role in developing insightful solutions to AI governance issues, and 2) Ways of incorporating ethical and responsible AI use in their future studies and career development.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**BASC3100. Transformative learning and experiential integration in international contexts (6 credits)**

*(This course is limited to the following two groups of students:  
1. Year 2 or above BASc students; 2. Undergraduate exchange students)*

This course invites students to engage intellectually with study abroad/overseas exchanges, aiming to integrate individual and collective insights for transformative learning. The course draws upon three main student experiences: 1) Pre-Departure (students intending to go on exchange or an equivalent experience) 2) Re-Integration (students returning from exchange or an equivalent experience) and 3) On-Going (incoming exchange students to HKU from overseas). This unique structure provides a spatial, temporal, and experiential diversity to the classroom that enhances intersubjective learning. We will first examine the concepts of transformation, experience, and learning, and how they can be integrated from interdisciplinary perspectives (e.g., the metaphor of metamorphosis; the morality of human development; the phenomenology of perception and stereotypes). We will then examine the structures and theories of unfamiliar places, rootedness, mobility, cross-cultural encounters, reciprocity, and service learning in the context of students' unique identities and experiences. The course is designed to cultivate skills of critical reflection to prepare students for their pre-departure, on-going and/or re-integration experiences. We will conclude with reflections on transformation of the "whole person" as an embodied, transnational process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**BASC3200. Vulnerability Reframed: Unlocking Disability's Potential (6 credits)**

According to the World Health Organization, "An estimated 1.3 billion people—about 16% of the global population—currently experience significant disability. This number is increasing due in part to population ageing and an increase in the prevalence of noncommunicable

diseases” (WHO, 2023). Disability is inherent in the human condition. All of us will temporarily or permanently experience disability at some point in our lives. Disability has usually been defined and understood negatively based on certain cultural values and standards of “normalcy.” Yet, what if instead of placing independence, strength, and efficiency as top values in our lives, we aimed at fostering interconnectedness, embracing vulnerability, and developing supporting networks of care in our society? What if we questioned what is “normal” and who decides what “normality” means? How would our world be like if we cherished difference and unlocked disability’s unique abilities and potential to promote technological advancement and create alternative ways of being in the world? In this course we will consider disability in all its complexity and focus on the transformative power of human vulnerability and difference to explore how disability can help us question deep-seated assumptions, open new possibilities in many areas of our lives, and reconsider our human condition.

The course follows an interdisciplinary, experiential, and creative approach to disability. Students will critically analyse disability by integrating ideas from different disciplines, media representations, and realms of life. We will examine the assumptions, strengths, and weaknesses of different models of disability (medical, social, affirmative); tackle the complexity of disability by putting into dialogue different disciplines (medicine, sociology, architecture, arts, media, technology, education, bioethics); analyse media representations of disability as well as lived experiences of disabilities articulated through media; and link theory to practice by interacting with the realities of people with disabilities in our environment. The goal is to help students appreciate different perspectives, develop abilities to evaluate the testimony of experts, increase their sensitivity to ethical issues, and integrate different perspectives by applying creative and unconventional thinking.

Throughout the course, students will creatively reconsider the challenges that people with disability face in their lives (identity, accessibility, legal rights, education) as sources of creative potential. We will consider alternative ways of seeing reality thanks to disability (visual thinking), the extraordinary abilities of people with disabilities in the areas of arts and sports, and how technological development has both helped and hindered people with disabilities. Students will apply what they learn in class to the reality of disability in Hong Kong by meeting people with disabilities, analysing their reality in a particular context (family, education, workplace), and uncovering or envisioning the possibilities that this reality could unfold in our world. By identifying the transformative power of vulnerability, disability emerges as an alternative reality full of potential in our world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **BASC3300. Human, Animal and Planetary Wellness in Practice (6 credits)**

This course explores the idea of ‘wellness’ from multidisciplinary perspectives, where students will learn how to consider the many ways this concept applies to our own human lives, and work towards the wellness of the other living things around our planet Earth as a whole. As Friends of the Earth expanded the World Health Organization’s definition of health in 1980: “health is a state of complete physical, mental, social and ecological well-being and not merely the absence of disease—personal health involves planetary health”.

When it comes to facing challenges to our own mental and physical health, nature can be a huge source of inspiration, comfort, and connection to other living beings. Our scholarship and activism surrounding climate change and sustainability can also tend to be anthropocentric, placing the flora and fauna of our world second to human concerns. How can we be in better

harmony with our natural world? And effectively direct our good intentions and eco-friendly sentiments into practical solutions for both humans and non-humans? How do we do so with kindness towards ourselves, while expanding our hearts to the plants and animals we co-exist with? What are the best ways to draw strength and insights from diverse communities to tackle some of the most pressing issues of our time? Through critical analysis and engagement with all three ‘wellnesses’—human, animal and planetary—students will embrace the interrelationships between themselves and nature.

Students will also gain appreciation for the epistemological power of considering health and wellbeing from interdisciplinary perspectives. They will first gain a comprehensive understanding of wellness as theoretical concepts by reading through published literature and considering how anthropologists, doctors and ecologists conceive of ‘wellness’. This literature will include various models of ‘wellness’, case studies and policy papers. Then through study of psychological investigations, ethnographic research, and self-reflection, consider ‘wellness’ as a lived-in state of being, as well as an everchanging condition dependent on observable occupational, cultural, and religious practices. The class will then examine topics relating to human-nature relationships, such as genetic engineering, ‘green’ technology’ and animal conservation. Through a variety of archaeological, historical and geographical case studies from different geographical and temporal contexts, students will discover how individual and societal ‘wellness’ varies according to local contexts, histories and peoples. And finally, an important part of our reflections is a consideration of how modern technologies and discussions of mental health now hinder or promote wellbeing, as well as healthful relationships with our plan.

To prepare students for their creative project assignments, we will consider how traditional literature, zines, music, film, and other popular media can provide a platform for positive change and effective solutions to complex problems. Their approaches will be informed by studying previous examples of mental health policies and environmental governance, considering the psychoanalytical aspects of personal wellbeing and climate activism, and learning from decolonial and Indigenous perspectives on wellness. Throughout the course, students will also engage in a variety of lectures, discussions, reflective exercises and field trips to NGOs, climate advocacy groups, and traditional communities in Hong Kong, all specifically designed to encourage students to reflect on wellness and use their creativity to think critically and communicate effectively. By the end, students will have a holistic understanding of wellness and be equipped to contribute to positive change and advocate for the well-being of the planet, animals and plants, and ourselves, in various contexts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Department of Geography**

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### **Introductory Courses**

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#### **GEOG1003. Contemporary global environmental issues (6 credits)**

Recent decades have been characterized by increasing awareness of environmental issues and the need to come to terms with them. This course will examine, in turn, many of the current major environmental issues related to the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere

as well as looking at major threats posed by the environment itself in the form of natural hazards. In addition, the issue of a potential nuclear threat and the ever-increasing demand for energy are explored. Finally, the matter of sustainable development and intelligent management of the planet for present and future generations is addressed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG1012. Economic and social development in an urbanizing world (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the processes and spatial patterns of economic development and social changes in an increasingly urbanizing world. Important subjects to be discussed include the geographical dynamics of economic development, the trend of economic globalization versus local development, the location issue in various economic sectors, geopolitics and the new world order, as well as social and environmental concerns in the urbanization process. Emphasis will be placed on the geographical explanation of economic development and emerging urban issues in this rapidly changing world.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

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### **GEOG1020. Modern maps in the age of big data (6 credits)**

Maps have been widely used in our everyday work-life activities, while modern maps, such as photo-realistic streetscape maps available on the Internet and dynamic/interactive maps with changing 3D views, which are made possible with big data, i.e., extremely large datasets relating to human behavior and social interaction captured with modern positioning and affordable mobile devices, are making our daily life more convenient and our work more efficient. This course introduces the main features of modern maps, the characteristics of big data, the opportunities and challenges, and the basic principles for producing and applying modern maps in the age of big data.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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## **Advanced Courses**

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### **GEOG2013. Sustainable development: introduction and quantification (6 credits)**

The world must manage its natural and environmental resource to meet the human needs of the present while at the same time preserving these resources for future generations. The course introduces students the concept of sustainability through the lens of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and learn how to quantify the progress towards sustainable development. In other words, it aims to enhance students' understanding of the issues relating to sustainable development and quantification of sustainable development. Although the course cannot provide complete answers to the issues, it helps develop students' ability of critical thinking and suggest promising directions in which answers may be sought.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2030. Global development (6 credits)**



This course explains the processes of globalization and the implications of using information and communication technologies (ICT) in understanding forces of spatial convergence and divergence. It provides students with a better understanding of the forces of globalization and ICT, and their impact on contemporary geography. After taking this course, students are expected to be able to understand local issues as the results of forces operating at different spatial scales and be able to analyse and respond to changes brought about by globalization and ICT. A geographical perspective is adopted to explain and analyse the processes of globalization. Special emphasis is placed on the modern transnational corporations (TNCs) in different sectors of the economy and different regions of the world. Then, the impact of ICT on various dimensions of the society, including government, commerce, work, and personal and social networking, are systematically examined. The stages of e-development are proposed. Finally, the question of whether places in the contemporary world are moving towards convergence and divergence is addressed.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2057. Leisure and recreation in modern society (6 credits)**

This course is an overview of the broad field of recreation and leisure, emphasizing the understanding of various leisure phenomena. As such, it aims to provide students with an introductory understanding of the nature and scope of leisure, leisure behaviour and affiliated recreation activity. It also reviews relationships between leisure and space, place, time, play, work, family, education, ethnicity, gender and environment.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **GEOG2078. Cities and the urban world: A global introduction to urban geography (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to the field of urban geography from a global perspective. We live on an increasingly urbanized planet, with more than half of us now living in cities and accelerating trends of urban population growth and rural population decline only expected to continue in the decades to come. In this course, we will explore the spatial patterns and social processes of contemporary urban life, from the models we use to understand cities and plan for better urban futures to the tensions and triumphs of urban communities, and the governance structures and policy interventions we develop to negotiate and direct the uneven progress of urban development and change. We'll also take a close look at how everyday people experience and interact with cities around the world, drawing on news reporting, academic research, popular culture, blogs, film, music, magazines, and much more, from Jakarta to Johannesburg, from London to Lagos, and from Chicago to Shanghai. Students who successfully complete this course will be well prepared to excel in more advanced courses in human geography (especially urban geography), urban governance, urban planning, and urban studies, among other fields.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2090. Introduction to geographic information systems (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the computer-assisted techniques of geographic data analysis, collectively known as GIS, which involve the overlaying and merging of spatial data layers.

The principles of such an approach will be discussed focusing on the nature of spatial data, raster and vector data structures, GPS data collection, data transformation and geocoding, and spatial overlay techniques. Students must complete five simple exercises involving the application of GIS concepts in real-life situations. An examination requiring short-essay responses will be administered during the examination period.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **GEOG2126. Understanding China: the land and the people (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course about the evolving physical, cultural and political landscape of China. Emphasis is placed on (a) the natural environment and physical setting for development; (b) historical geography and evolution of the landscape; (c) the political system and post-1949 development; and (d) the growth and spatial distribution of the Chinese population.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2127. Environmental management (6 credits)**

The course will introduce a range of key issues, concepts, principles and methods in environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to environmental management will also be elaborated. The roles of civil society, market mechanism and government regulations in environmental management will be examined. Real-life examples from Hong Kong, China, and overseas countries will be discussed to illustrate how integrated approaches should be applied for identifying optimal options in environmental management decision-making processes.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2132. World cities (6 credits)**

World cities have been contributing to the international networks of human activities, including flows of goods, services and finance which constitute the world economy. The course is divided into three main sections with two introductory lectures outlining the key concepts and terminologies to be used in the latter part of discussion and two concluding lectures focusing on the challenges of livability, sustainability and vibrancy of world cities. It begins with a discussion of urban economies. World cities are concentrations of capital, international firms, and professional workers. This part of the module offers an economic rationale for the existence of world cities and explains how they are shaped by the process of globalization. The discussion is followed by providing an overview of urban issues, including uneven development, concentrated decentralization, fragmentation, polycentrism, regionalization, segregation and exclusion. Different world cities will be chosen as case studies. Growth sustainability of world cities will be discussed before concluding this course.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2136. Political geography: International relations and the world economy (6 credits)**

This course provides students with an overview and fundamental understanding of the ways in which political issues are dealt with through geographical and spatial perspectives. Students

will be trained with skills to understand inter-state relations and competitions in the contemporary world economic system. Major concepts and definitions in Political Geography will first be introduced, and this is to be followed by a brief introduction of the intellectual history and lineage of Political Geography. Theoretical issues and empirical cases, grouped into a number of topics, will then be presented. The tenet of this course is to show how world order and the lived experiences of people are shaped by, but also reshape, the respective capacities of, and interactions between, state regimes. It is to show that sovereignty, territoriality and nation-state matter a great deal in defining global economy; and social transformation. Topics investigated in the course include: classical geopolitical theories; global economy and the world-system; geopolitics; colonialism and imperialism; the territorial state; nation-state; and nationalism; border and border control; liberal democracy and social democracy.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

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### **GEOG2138. Hong Kong's environment: Issues and policies (6 credits)**

This course will provide students with a regional and comparative perspective to examine the complex inter-relationships between the socio-economic-political processes and the perplexing environmental and ecological conditions of Hong Kong. This course will help students develop an in-depth understanding of the larger issues impinging on Hong Kong's ecological future. It will also enable them to think critically of the material causes and consequences of the changing nature of environmental challenges associated with sustained economic and urban growth, both in Hong Kong as well as in its neighbouring jurisdictions in Mainland China. The course materials are organized around three major sub-themes to help achieve its overall objectives: the sustainability dimensions of Hong Kong as a compact city, the links between economic restructuring and changing environmental challenges and the constraints of and opportunities for cross-boundary environmental cooperation.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2150. Introduction to China's environmental and sustainable development issues (6 credits)**

China is prone to natural resources degradation due to its geographic characteristics and its large population. Environmental problems have been accelerated by not only the rapid economic growth of recent years but also the high intensity of energy use, particularly in the industrial sector. These factors combined with economic and pricing policies failing to account for the intrinsic value of natural resources have led to their over-exploitation. This course provides a general overview of China's natural environment; examines its institutional, legislative and administrative frameworks in environment protection and nature conservation; and discusses the government's strategies for environmental protection and sustainable development.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG2161. Sustainability assessment, analysis and management (6 credits)**

This course aims to introduce the concept of sustainability through the lens of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and learn how to quantify the progress towards sustainable development. The course begins with an overview of concept and background knowledge of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and then focus on

quantification of sustainable development such as progress towards sustainable development goals, green development level, progress of ecological civilization etc. The discussion is followed by introducing students to knowledge in three areas: starting from the current progress in achieving 17 Sustainable Development Goals, through human interventions for promoting SDGs, and how to quantify sustainable development progress. The course also provides students with knowledge about trade-off and synergies between different dimensions of sustainable development and challenges we face to achieve sustainable development.

**Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination**

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### **GEOG3205. Environmental hazards (6 credits)**

This course examines a range of environmental hazards of geological, geomorphological, atmospheric, biological and human origin focusing on their origins, characteristics and impacts on human society. It will also deal with the responses available to different societies to deal with these hazards including disaster relief, loss sharing and event modification adjustments. Basic hazard planning and management principles are outlined. Where practicable local and regional examples will be used as illustrations.

Assessment: 40% coursework, 60% examination.

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### **GEOG3207. Environmental management: Impact assessment (6 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to discuss the role of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies in the environmental decision-making process and as a means for better environmental management. The major components, processes, and attributes to EIA systems will be discussed throughout the lectures. The course will also introduce different methodologies in planning and managing of an EIA study. Applications of EIA system in the local context will be discussed in detail and illustrated by real-life examples mainly from Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG3213. Ecosystem services and sustainable society (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide students with the fundamental understanding of nature's ecosystem services and their importance for the development of a sustainable society. Creating a sustainable society is one of the most crucial challenges in the 21st century. Human society is dependent on both technological and ecological life support systems. To build a sustainable society, it is necessary to understand natural ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services which are essential to the survival of human society. Attention should be given to the sustainability of ecosystem services lest they may fail through ever increasing pressure of population and associated environmental degradation. This course starts with an introduction of the concept of ecosystem services. Major issues discussed include: (1) conceptualization and classification of ecosystem services; (2) urban ecosystem services and land-use planning; (3) human impacts on ecosystem services; (4) ecosystem services economics; and (5) ecosystem services mapping.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **GEOG3214. Corporate social responsibility and environmental auditing (6 credits)**

The world's major environmental problems are closely related to the impacts imposed by various commercial establishments. Recently, the contribution of the business sector to social responsibility and sustainability has been increasingly emphasized. The awareness of the social and environmental implications of business operations, products and services has brought changes in relevant attitudes, behaviours and policies. On the other hand, various stakeholders, such as the public, investors, customers, employees, media and business partners are interested in the social and environmental activities of corporations and their contribution to sustainable development. This course introduces students to the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and environmental auditing. It will focus on the recognition of CSR as a process that integrates social and environmental concerns in business operations, and the application of environmental auditing as a preventative tool to manage social and environmental responsibilities. Adopting an integrated scientific and practical approach, the course appeals to students with science, social science, business or humanity background with interests in corporate social performance, welfare of the environment and quest for sustainable development.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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#### **GEOG3304. Tourism policy and planning (6 credits)**

This course aims at demonstrating the critical importance of tourism policy to the competitiveness and sustainability of a destination and relates tourism planning to policy making. The course outlines the structure, content and formation of tourism policy and the planning and management strategies articulated in the context of social, economic, political and environmental impacts of tourism. Students will be introduced to case studies worldwide so as to appreciate the geographical specificities of and develop a critical perspective towards, tourism policy and planning.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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#### **GEOG3417. Health, wellbeing, place and GIS (6 credits)**

*(Students are recommended to take "GEOG2090 Introduction to geographic information systems" before taking this more advanced course)*

All aspects of the natural, built, and socioeconomic environment may affect human health and wellbeing both individually and collectively. The idea of applying GIS techniques in health-related studies is not new. Indeed, GIS has been used for decades in the western countries to undertake assessment and control of environmental factors that can potentially affect health. This course explores how GIS is used to address and analyze pressing health problems from the geographical perspective. It covers such topics as theoretical and practical issues, simple disease mapping, disease pattern analysis, and environmental association through spatial modeling techniques. The course will be conducted in a series of lectures and hands-on practices (six computer-based exercises) in a problem-based learning environment. Students will design and implement spatial analysis and statistical approaches on a health outcome topic that is demonstrated during the semester.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **GEOG3426. Social networks and geography (6 credits)**

Social sciences are the study of relationships and these relationships can be represented via networks. This is also true for the socio-economic interactions studied in the geography discipline. This course focuses on the theories, applications and tools in social network analysis. It covers the basics of graph analysis, fundamental network models, diffusion processes of ideas, knowledge and information, and the contagion of diseases across space. In network analysis, theories and the quantitative methods are often entwined. This class will focus primarily on the substantive concepts of social network analysis but will also provide an introduction to the quantitative methods and measures commonly used in the field of geography. These methods are tools for students' future academic and professional careers. Connections with contemporary issues such as the geographical spread of the Corona-virus will be made.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG3429. Geographies of transpacific empire (6 credits)**

This course offers an interdisciplinary and intersectional approach to the study of empire-building, colonialism, and settler militarism across the Pacific world. Through a close engagement with conventional academic readings, cultural production, and primary sources, we will explore how the everyday work of imperialism and colonialism across the region has always been grounded in the geographical management of racialized and gendered bodies, transnational circulations, and intimate encounters. Drawing inspiration from recent work in the fields of global Asian, inter-Asian, and Asian diaspora studies, we will pay special attention to the linkages between the various US, British, and Japanese imperial projects that shaped and transformed the geographies of everyday life across the Pacific. But we will also consider how the story of imperialism in the Pacific is not only a story of power and violence, but also one of revolution, liberation, and collective struggle.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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### **GEOG3432. GIS Workshop (6 credits)**

The GIS Workshop is a hands-on course that provides students with practical experience in designing and implementing GIS projects. Students will learn the basic principles of GIS project design and work independently on a project that is relevant to their field of interest. Topics covered in the course include GIS system design, database design, Python programming, and workflow diagram design. Students will gain extensive experience in using and customizing GIS software, and will learn how to design and implement a GIS system that meets the specific needs of their project through Python programming. Additionally, students will also learn how to design workflow diagrams, which are an essential tool for organizing and visualizing complex GIS projects. Throughout the course, students will apply the GIS techniques they have learned in a substantive and meaningful way by working on a self-designed project. Students will be expected to demonstrate competence in using and developing GIS techniques, and to produce a final project that showcases their skills and knowledge.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Department of Politics and Public Administration**

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### **Introductory Course**

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**POLI1003. Making sense of politics (6 credits)**

It is an introductory course offered to students with no previous background in political science. It covers the basic concepts, institutions and processes that one would encounter in the study of politics. Emphasis will be placed on the application of concepts to current issues, including (but not restricted to) that of Hong Kong.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**Advanced Courses**

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**POLI2106. Introduction to international relations (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to the study of International Relations. Students will acquire knowledge and analytic tools that are helpful in understanding and explaining a variety of international phenomena. After a brief historical introduction, the first part of the course will focus primarily on understanding the main International Relations perspectives on the nature of the international system and the causes of interstate war, cooperation and peace. The second part will expand into analyzing other aspects -- either non-violent or non-state-centric -- of international politics, including international trade and international law. The course provides a foundation for further study in International Relations.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI2107. Introduction to political theory (6 credits)**

This course addresses some of the fundamental questions in the field of political theory, including: Why should we obey the law? Who should rule us? What rights and liberties should citizens have? How should property be distributed? By addressing these and other questions, the course provides students with a broad introduction to the major concepts in Western political theory, such as authority, democracy, liberty, rights, equality and justice. This is a “gateway” course, and it is recommended that students complete this course before enrolling in any other political theory classes.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI3010. Democracy and its critics (6 credits)**

This course aims to explore a set of important issues about the theory and practice of democracy. The first part of the course will examine the challenge of meritocracy and various justifications of democracy, including those offered by Mill, Rousseau, Schumpeter, and others. The second part will address some of the most pressing problems facing liberal democracies today: how to improve the quality of public deliberation in the age of social media? How to overcome the challenges posed by populism? How to maintain the efficacy of democratic institutions in a global capitalist economy?

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI3020. Hong Kong politics (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the legal, political and institutional structure of the Hong Kong government. The political culture and attitudes of the Hong Kong people are discussed. Other topics include the Chief Executive, legislative politics, constitutional politics, public opinion, pressure groups, political parties, mass media, and Beijing's policy toward Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI3039. Public policy analysis (6 credits)**

This is an introductory course to public policy analysis with an emphasis on the production of advice for decision-makers. This course builds foundations of public policy analysis by covering related theories and concepts. Having answered why we need government intervention in solving public policy problems, this course also seeks to equip students with skills and techniques to analyse, design, and assess policy options.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI3059. China and the world (6 credits)**

In this course we investigate several important puzzles about China in international politics: Can earlier periods of China's history help us understand its contemporary foreign policies? What does China's economic transformation since 1978 mean for the global economy? Will the United States and China successfully accommodate each other, or will the coming years be defined by friction and conflict? Do China's military, political, and economic activities abroad threaten or complement the interests of other states and societies? This course examines these questions by surveying classic and recent research on China's historical and contemporary foreign relations. In doing so, it considers China in the context of broader theories in international relations. It also introduces students to different social science research approaches including qualitative case studies, archival research, survey experiments, and large-N statistical analyses. The first third of the course focuses on historical Chinese foreign relations. The remaining two thirds turn to contemporary issues in the study of Chinese foreign policy.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**POLI3080. Global political economy (6 credits)**

This course explores the political dimensions of global economic relations. The objectives of this course are to give students a better appreciation of major problems and dilemmas of contemporary global economy and to provide a conceptual framework for addressing policy problems in the global economy. We begin by examining several contending perspectives on global political economy. The course then examines distinct issue areas: globalization, development, trade, capital flows, financial crises, multinational production, environmental degradation, world hunger, and the transnational movement of people.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**POLI3097. Modernity and globalization (6 credits)**



The concept of ‘modernity’ refers to a series of developments that transformed the world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the emergence of the modern state, democracy, capitalism and modern industry. The concept of ‘globalization’ refers to a series of similar dynamics in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, such as the emergence of global governance, new forms of global trade and industry, and apparent transformations in cultures and societies. This module surveys some of the most important debates about modernity and globalization in social and political thought, addressing important questions such as: What does it mean to be ‘modern’? Is modernity a distinctively ‘Western’ experience? What is ‘globalization’? Is globalization a transformation or continuation of modernity? Does globalization mark the ‘triumph’ of the ‘West’?

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **POLI3121. Environmental policy (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide introduction into the principles of environmental policy. It introduces fundamental theories and basic principles applied to environmental policy analysis. This course will help students to understand how economic incentives originate environmental problems and what roles government and public policy play. This course continues with discussions on various environmental policy issues, including international environmental issues and energy. Eligibility: Students who have taken POLI3117 in 2014-15 are not allowed to take this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Department of Psychology**

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### **Introductory Courses**

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#### **PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)**

Discussion of basic concepts in psychology and a preliminary survey of representative work carried out in various areas of psychological investigation, together with an investigation at some length of one such area.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research in psychology. The course is designed to provide students with the basic background in research design and data analysis, covering the logic of statistical reasoning and inference as well as the key concepts involved. Priority will be given to students planning to major in psychology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **Advanced Courses**

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**PSYC2007. Cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers how humans process information from the environment. Topics include various aspects of perception, attention, memory, imagery, language and decision-making. Students will learn from attending lectures and active participation during tutorials. Students will also conduct experiments about cognitive functioning and learn to critically evaluate existing studies in the research literature and to write research reports on experimental findings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1001 and PSYC1004

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**PSYC2009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to developmental psychology from a life-span perspective. The topics include: basic concepts and theories of human development; research methodology and issues in the study of developmental change; biological, environmental and social influences on development; processes of physical development over the life-span; attachment and emotional development; development of perception, language, cognition and morality; development of personality and social relationships.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)**

This course will critically examine a number of theories of personality as exemplified in the lives of some of the significant figures in the field. The relationship of specific theories to practical applications, personality assessment and psychotherapeutic techniques may be included. The major aims of the course are to provide a survey of the breadth and complexity of this field and to provide a perspective from which to examine assumptions about human nature and the evaluation of behaviour.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)**

The course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers social perception, social cognition, social motivation, attitudes and attitude change, relationship between attitude and behaviour, aggression, helping, interpersonal attraction, social influence on individual behaviour and group dynamics. The impact of Chinese culture on various social behaviours will form part of the discussion.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2022. Biological psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to biological aspects of behaviour. The topics include:

biological bases of behaviour, development, learning, memory, and abnormal psychology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; psychophysiology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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### **PSYC2035. Introduction to educational psychology (6 credits)**

This course focuses on how psychological theories are applied to learning, teaching, and facilitation of human growth. The topics include major developmental theories and their application to learning and instruction, learning theories from both behavioral and cognitive traditions, effective teaching methods and practices, learners' individual and group differences, achievement motivation, and assessment. Students will be involved in learning activities that require self-reflection and integration of daily life experience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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### **PSYC2038. Psychology of language (6 credits)**

A study of the cognitive processes involved in language comprehension and production, including the acquisition of native as well as second languages, the biological and cognitive bases of language learning and use, the psychology of reading and reading disabilities, the comparison of psychological aspects of the Chinese language and other languages, and bilingualism.

Assessment: 40% coursework and 60% examination.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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### **PSYC2051. Perception (6 credits)**

An introduction to sensation and perception, with an emphasis on the psychology of seeing. Specific topics include the following: examination of the functional properties of sensory systems (e.g., auditory system, colour vision, vestibular system, touch and kinaesthesia); phenomenology of sensation and perception; psychophysical limits of perceptual systems; goals of sensory coding; structure and evolution of sensory systems; theories of perception. Perceptual experiments will be conducted by students in laboratory classes.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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### **PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)**

This course will provide a broad exposure to both theory and practice in clinical psychology. It is a foundation course in mental health, counselling and other psychological services. A wide array of types of mental disorders will be examined. Important themes will be emphasized such as the continuum in behaviour from mental health to mental illness, the diathesis-stress and nature-nurture models and epidemiology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2065. Health psychology (6 credits)**

This course acquaints students with the realm of health psychology. Students will gain (a) an understanding of the ways psychosocial factors influence health concerns and healthcare utilization, and (b) familiarity with basic concepts that guide the work of health professionals. Topics covered in this course include health behaviours, coping with health-related stress, social support and health, psychoimmunology, management of chronic illnesses, and patient-practitioner interaction.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2066. Foundations of cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course allows students to gain an understanding of the workings of the mind in the context of the technological advances that are increasingly shaping our lives and our society. The course introduces students to the domain, goals and methods of Cognitive Science, showing how different disciplines converge in their enquiry into how the brain works. Lectures will present case studies highlighting research findings which show how similar questions about the functioning of the human mind are answered from the perspective of each contributing discipline.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: COMP1117 or ENGG1330 or LING1000 or PHIL1012 or PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2067. Seminars in cognitive science (6 credits)**

This course is a tutorial-based reading course in specialist areas of cognitive science research and interest. It will include presentations and group discussion of research and issues of interest within cognitive science, providing an opportunity for students to examine critically the cognitive science approach to understanding intelligent systems.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC2066 or two disciplinary electives.

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**PSYC2101. Foundations of neuroscience I (6 credits)**

This course covers the fundamental principles of neuroscience. Topics include history of neuroscience, neurons and glia, neuronal membrane at rest, action potential, synaptic transmission, neuroanatomy, the somatic sensory system, chemical senses: taste and smell. the auditory system, vision and the eye, vision and the brain, spinal control of movement, brain control of movement, chemical control of the brain and behaviour, development in the nervous system, memory systems, learning and memory: molecular biology, emotion and attention. (Priority will be given to students planning to major in neuroscience)

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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**PSYC2102. Seminar in neuroscience (6 credits)**

This course surveys key topics in neuroscience research. Students will be reading, analysing, and evaluating classical and cutting-edge research studies. Throughout the course, students will be able to learn research methods in cellular and system neuroscience, and their applications in research of neurological and psychiatric syndromes. Students will be able to apply the basic concepts and technological knowledge on various experimental methods for neuroscience investigation, as well as be able to critically evaluate empirical research. In-class activities will include presentations and discussions, among other activities.

(Priority will be given to students planning to major in neuroscience)

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC2101.

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### **PSYC2110. Developmental neuroscience (6 credits)**

Developmental neuroscience is an interdisciplinary research topic that integrates neuroscience, cognitive science and developmental science. This course aims to uncover the brain and neural mechanisms that underlie social, affective and cognitive development across the life span. Specific topics will include the introduction of theories and methods in developmental neuroscience, neuroplasticity, neural mechanisms that underlie the development of attention and perception processes, motor learning, memory, cognitive control, social-emotional processes. This course will examine these processes at different developmental stages, including infants, toddlers, adolescence and ageing population. This course will also cover the neural mechanisms underlying atypical development such as the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC2101.

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### **PSYC2111. Neurobiological basis of psychological issues (6 credits)**

Human behaviour is generated by complex psychophysiological mechanisms of the brain. This course is designed to provide a broad introduction to the biological basis of stress, emotion, and regulation of cognitive-affective processes affecting psychological health. The neurobiological basis of psychopathologies e.g. depression, anxiety, will be examined as examples to demonstrate the complex relationships between brain, behaviour, and psychopathology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisite: PSYC1001.

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### **PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)**

This advanced laboratory course is designed for students interested in learning how to conduct studies in social psychology. Students will develop skills in critically evaluating current theoretical controversies and methodological paradigms. Special attention is given to theoretical, methodological, and measurement issues such as critical thinking in social psychology, social research design, proposal writing, and research ethics. This course is conducted in a seminar format with the expectation that students will participate actively and on occasion help lead a discussion. Some combination of readings, written assignments, and oral presentation is required. Students will each do an independent empirical research project.

Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2019 or PSYC2020.

Mutually exclusive with: PSYC3051

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### **PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)**

This course introduces basic principles of brain-behaviour relationships. Research methods for investigating brain-behaviour relationships are reviewed. The neuro-anatomical and neuropsychological mechanisms underpinning various cognitive and affective processes as well as how these processes are dysregulated in some common brain disorders are discussed. Students will participate in an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: Either PSYC2101 or PSYC2022.

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### **PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)**

This advanced seminar course reviews findings from both recent and classical research on human perceptual systems. Modules will consider in-depth, select special topics such as cross-modal perceptual interactions, lessons from abnormal perception in agnosia, amblyopia, etc. Modules will be discussed from a multidisciplinary standpoint, integrating computational, psychophysical and neurobiological approaches. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and PSYC2051.

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### **PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers some of the more recent developments in cognitive psychology. Students will learn about current issues in cognitive psychology by reading research articles. Topics may include consciousness, mental representations of objects/faces/letters, language, memory and decision making, as well as other topics reflecting the interests of the teacher. Students will each do an independent empirical research project. Priority will be given to UG students majoring in psychology and neuroscience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC1004 and either PSYC2007 or PSYC2051.

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## **Department of Sociology**

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### **Introductory Courses**

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### **SOCI1001. Introduction to sociology (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of sociological enquiry and the basic concepts

used in sociological analysis. After some reference to the influence of inheritance and environment on human social behaviour, the course will focus on key concepts used in the analysis of cultures, social structures, social processes and social change. Topics include social class, education, media, culture and crime. The relationship between research, concepts and contemporary theory will be explored at an introductory level.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI1003. Introduction to anthropology (6 credits)**

This course will explore, through cross-cultural comparison, key social and cultural issues, such as marriage and the family, caste and class, ethnicity and identity, language and culture, state formation, economic values, gender and religion. The course will draw on studies of the peoples and cultures of Asia.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI1004. Introduction to sociology: the world's on fire (and other problems) (6 credits)**

Sociology is a tricky subject because it is so diverse – and indeed what Sociologists can (and do!) study is absolutely ubiquitous, from what we eat or wear to the predictors of revolution. Given this diversity, the goal of our course is foremost to get you acquainted with a sociological way of thinking, and to help you apply this way of thinking to the social issues that interest you.

The course will help you acquire these tools by introducing you to some of the core sociological themes. In lectures, we will also systematically investigate and apply these themes to the issue of climate change – thereby demonstrating how the sociological imagination can be used to understand an important social problem. In tutorials and in your assignments, you will then be invited to apply your new sociological imagination to issues of your own choosing.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Advanced Courses**

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### **SOCI2019. Modern culture and lifestyles (6 credits)**

This course explores the social dynamics of modern lifestyles, through the core dimensions of consumption and identity in modernity. We shall ask questions such as, are we able to lead the kinds of lifestyles we want to, and why or why not? How do certain lifestyles become naturalized and universalized? Some of us layer various life styles that might, at closer inspection, be in tension with one another: how do we reconcile those? We will inquire how facets of identity such as class, gender and sexuality, race, age, and nationality are formed through what we buy and the spaces (actual and virtual) we inhabit. Ideas about authenticity and essentialism will be examined as we look at how modern life styles serve as a way to experience both individuality and inclusion in a community.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2044. Economic sociology (6 credits)**

Economic Sociology is concerned with the relations between the economic and non-economic aspects of social life. It challenges the basic assumptions that economic action is universally rational on which neo-classical economics is based. This course begins with an introduction of the key ideas of “new economic sociology.” It followed by some selected topics that apply the new economic sociology perspective to understand a wide range of economic activities, including culture and market, social network and economic transactions, the role of the state, money and consumption, investment and firm, corporation, labour management, organizational culture, and the cultural impacts of economic globalization.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2053. Youth culture (6 credits)**

This course explores issues such as the discovery of childhood and adolescence, the development and expressions of youth culture in different societies including the United States, Britain, Japan, Canada, as well as youth cultures in Hong Kong.

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### **SOCI2055. Tourism, culture and society (6 credits)**

The phenomenal growth of tourism in contemporary societies is of major social and cultural significance. This course introduces students to a sociological study of tourism viewed as a complex social phenomenon connected with social and cultural dynamics. Special attention will be given to Asian and Chinese experiences, not only as guest societies, but also host societies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2067. Crime and the media (6 credits)**

The media plays an extremely influential role in the public’s conceptions of crime and order. This course is designed to look at the different ways in which the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course is divided into two main sections. The first half of the course examines representations of crime in different media forms and theoretical explanations for why crime is portrayed in particular ways. The second half of the course focuses on the representation of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI2071. Criminology (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to criminology as both an applied and academic discipline. The subject matter of criminology is diverse involving research drawn from many disciplines including medicine, law and sociology. The course begins by focusing on the state of crime in Hong Kong and introduces students to the operations, functions and nature of the various criminal justice agencies involved in the control of crime. The course also provides a general review of the major theoretical approaches and issues in understanding and measuring crime. The course also provides an applied component which emphasizes the principles and practice of investigative interviewing - a core skill in the criminal justice system. Related topics covered



to enhance the context of investigative interviewing include victimology, the investigative process and the role of forensic sciences (corroboration), and the legal rights of the suspect. Students will be required to visit courts, prisoner treatment programmes and participate in interviewing exercises and practicums.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI2073. Global migration (6 credits)**

This course will explore the institutions, processes, and dynamics that surround global migration, attending in particular to situations in East and Southeast Asia. The course has four major parts: (1) the making of the transnational space, (2) ethnic relations, citizenship, and political identity, (3) work and employment, and (4) transformations in gender and familial relationships.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2077. Media, culture and communication in contemporary China (6 credits)**

China has been undergoing dramatic and rapid social change as it becomes embedded in the global economy, and as such, has been the focus of a great deal of media attention. This course investigates the multi-faceted ways in which China's social, economic, political, and legal cultures are portrayed in different forms of contemporary media.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2080. Media and culture in modern societies (6 credits)**

This course introduces key thinkers, traditions and current debates in media and cultural studies and explores the central role of media and culture in contemporary social life. It enables students to understand media and culture as institution, practice, representation, production and consumption, and creativity. Topics include: a) the rise of the mass entertainment industries and their influence on social behaviour; b) the role of consumption in maintaining and creating new social identities and status hierarchy; c) the search for fantasies in advertisement; d) new regimes of body management and their impact on gender relations; e) the reclaiming of gender, sexual and cultural identities; and f) the various emerging forms of cultural politics and local activism.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI2081. Sexuality, culture and identity (6 credits)**

This course aims at investigating the significant changes that appear to be happening in the private sphere of intimacy in late-modern times in the globe, paying particular attention to Hong Kong city and other Asian countries. It introduces key concepts and theoretical approaches of gender and sexuality studies and touches upon topics such as homosexuality, female sexuality, pornography, commercial sex, BDSM, etc. It attempts to rethink the newly emerging sexual meanings that seem to harbour the rights and responsibilities of being sexual, pursuing pleasures, possessing bodies, claiming visibility and creating new relationships. At the end of the course, students are expected to develop critical thinking, a respect for diversity and the ability to envision new possibilities of intimacy.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI2084. Globalization and culture (6 credits)**

How does culture matter in the global diffusion of capitalism? How is Japanese capitalism different from American capitalism? How is marketization in post-socialist China different from marketization in post-socialist Russia? Through a number of anthropological and sociological empirical studies, this course examines the relations between culture and globalization of market economy in various respects. It exposes students to different parts of the world and their receptions to the globalizing economic and cultural forces. The course explores these questions through a perusal of different topics, such as work and labour in multinational corporations, the McDonaldisation of social and cultural sphere of life, and the global discourse of media and fashion. Interesting case studies from different localities will be used substantially for classroom discussion.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI2087. Urban society and culture (6 credits)**

In our age of globalization, world cities have become increasingly important as financial centers and cultural marketplaces in the world economy. This course examines how urban life is changing as cities redevelop to regulate global flows of capital, culture, and people. For whom is world city development designed? What are the fault lines of social inequality and difference that are taking shape? What new cultural forms are emerging, and why has culture become an important business for world cities? A number of cities will be considered, including New York, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Paris, and Sao Paulo.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI2091. Sociology of culture (6 credits)**

This course surveys the field of sociology of culture for an introductory purpose. It covers the core theoretical debates in cultural sociology and introduces some empirical investigations of the role of culture in various social lives, including in the structure of social inequalities. Students will learn the basic concepts of culture from a sociological perspective and develop a critical mind to analyse how culture works in our everyday lives and how culture is related to society in general.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI3010. Education and society (6 credits)**

Formal educational institutions in society will be examined, using the major concepts and theories of sociology. Emphasis is placed on the relationship between education and other important social institutions such as the family, the polity, and the economy. The questions of equality of educational opportunity and the potential role of education in fostering social change will also be analysed.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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### **SOCI3024. Modern social theory (6 credits)**

This course will be a critical exposition of many of the major trends in modern social theory, linking contemporary movements with older philosophical traditions in an attempt to trace continuities and ruptures in social thought. The course will be concerned with the contributions of behaviourists and social exchange theorists, the efforts of contemporary interactionists and French structuralists, and the post-structuralist enterprise.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI3069. Crime and the city (6 credits)**

The course examines key questions about crime, disorder and social deviance in city landscapes. The course focuses on three broad issues: different dimensions of the crime problem (the ‘what’ and the ‘who’ questions); the relationship between crime, space and place (the ‘where’ question); and the complex mix of informal and formal social controls that influence different types and levels of crime and social problems. Topics include low-level criminality and transgressions; urban-based subcultures (e.g. graffiti); the relationship between crime and design; marginalized groups (e.g. the homeless, migrants) and their use of public space; gated communities and urban fears; surveillance in everyday life. Its objective is to equip students with sophisticated ways of thinking critically and comparatively about different dimensions of crime and social order in an increasingly globalizing and polarizing world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOCI3100. Culture and cognition (6 credits)**

What is Culture and Cognition? It is a newer but rapidly growing area in sociology. It is not simply the sum of its two parts, that is, some Culture and some Cognition. Rather, the area is defined by relatively specific conceptual interests and empirical approaches to the study of culture and cognition as phenomena that are observable in their association at a social level, and that are thus subject to systematic study. As an area of study, Culture and Cognition is associated to, but nonetheless distinct from, the Sociology of Culture. Scholars in Culture and Cognition are interested in studying how actors actively use culture through shared cognitive schemas that are embedded in larger social structures. They study the actions, practices, discourses or patterns through which actors put cognition at work. And they use methods to empirically identify how actors put their cognition at work rather than assume how they do it. BUT, what is culture and cognition is a question that we will explore and debate as you learn about it throughout the term. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Department of Social Work and Social Administration**

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### **Introductory Courses**

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### **SOWK1004. Human behaviour and the social environment (I) (6 credits)**

This course introduces a holistic approach to an exploration of typical patterns of development from infancy to old age. Social and familial conditions affecting growth at different stages in the life-cycle will be studied, together with related problems of adaptation and adjustment.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK1015. Introduction to social policy and social development (6 credits)**

This course introduces the basic concepts and theoretical frameworks of social policy and social development, the history of social welfare in Hong Kong and in the international contexts, the process of programme and policy development, roles of various stakeholders (e.g., the government, the market sector, the voluntary sector, and the public), and the evaluation of programmes and policies. Students will acquire an understanding of social policy and social development through cases of diverse modes of social intervention from the developed and developing world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK1012. Communication and counselling skills in everyday life (6 credits)**

“No man is an island” – John Donne. Human beings are social animals. It is our natural behaviour to communicate with others. Good communication skills, however, are learned skills and not innate. Good counselling skills are advanced communication techniques. This course is an introduction to the basic communication and counselling skills required for establishing close and helping relationship with others. Students will be introduced to the concepts, skills and self-awareness needed for helpful interviewing and counselling and they can be applied in everyday life. Students are expected to have developed good listening skills, interviewing skills, and creative thinking and problem solving skills at the end of the course. Most importantly, this course aims to assist students to identify their personal areas of strengths and weaknesses in order to allow them to become effective listener and communicator.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **Advanced Courses**

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### **SOWK2023. Social policy issues in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

This course examines the issues of social policy in Hong Kong including privatization of welfare services, the impact of welfare ideology on the state of development in Hong Kong, the issue of equity and equality in welfare provision, community care and service needs of the new arrivals from the mainland. Different theories of welfare will be discussed in relation to local welfare issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK2109. Working with ethnically diverse communities in Hong Kong (6 credits)**

Throughout Hong Kong's history it has been a cosmopolitan city where people arrived in the territory from across the globe as colonisers, merchants, soldiers, low paid manual workers, domestic workers, professionals or for family reunion thus starting at different rungs of the social ladder. This gave rise to its multicultural flavour and justifiably becoming 'Asia's world city'. However, not all migrants have benefited from this miraculous growth. Some were

pushed to the margins, excluded or made invisible. This course benefits those who work with members of ethnic minority communities, intending to do so or who are curious about racial discrimination and multiculturalism in Hong Kong. Topics discussed include stigma, discrimination and prejudice in the context of history, gender, culture and religion of members of ethnic minority 128 communities, new arrivals or immigrant families. Lectures, group and panel discussions as well as field visits will constitute the learning process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK2119. Mediation and negotiation (6 credits)**

The nature of interpersonal conflicts and strategies of conflict resolution will be examined in this course. The key elements of negotiation and mediation will be reviewed from different perspectives. Students will learn basic skills of negotiation and mediation. A win-win strategy in the conflict resolution process will be emphasized.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK2111. Addictive behaviour (6 credits)**

This course introduces the growing body of knowledge on pathological addictive behaviours. Topics to be covered include drug abuse, alcoholism, computer addiction, and compulsive buying. Various models on the biological, psychological, and social factors related to the course of addiction will be explored. Assessment, treatment, and prevention strategies will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK2131. Behavioural economics for social change (6 credits)**

This course will examine the relationship between behavioural economics and social change. Individuals frequently make decisions that systematically depart from the predictions of standard economic models based on a purely rational model. Behavioural economics attempts to integrate the understanding of the psychology of human behaviour into economic and policy analysis. The course will review the major themes of behavioural economics and address the implications for social policy and social change in a wide variety of domains, including social security, health care, labour, education and social welfare programmes.

Pre-requisite: SOWK1001. Introduction to social administration or  
SOWK1002. Introduction to social work or  
SOWK1015. Introduction to social policy and social development

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK3091. Mental health sciences and society (6 credits)**

This course brings together cutting-edge knowledge and discussions on mental health from diverse but related disciplines of philosophy, psychology, psychiatry, epidemiology, and social and healthcare services administration, both in the unique local context and in the international mental health scene. Students will be introduced to the critical examination of theories and practices in mental health with real-world examples. Throughout the course, conceptual

explorations will be illustrated by case studies, including two complex syndromes affecting youth (i.e., psychotic disorders) and elderly (i.e., dementia), as well as other common mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety and developmental disorders (e.g., autism spectrum disorder) where appropriate. Using the conventional disease/medical model as a starting point, students will be guided to understand mental health in the broader context of biological, psychological, social and cultural factors that operate in combination to affect mental health outcomes at individual and population levels.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK3106. Use of creative arts in social work practice (6 credits)**

This course introduces the theories of creative arts as healing and illustrates the use of creative arts in local social work contexts, including individual or group counselling setting and community development setting. It is a practical course with hands-on experience to the use of creative arts in expression, communication and healing. Creative arts are action-oriented and process-focused. The development of skills and use of creative arts for self-exploration go simultaneously in this course. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with the use of arts for creative exploration and self-understanding. Different arts media will be introduced, including visual art, craft work, music, sounds, dramatic exercises, spontaneous movement and writing. The students will synthesize their personal experience with conceptual learning through experiential activities, live demonstration, listening exercise, case studies, video analysis and sharing. This course is not a formal creative arts therapy training, but offers opportunities for exploring the resources of creative arts in social work context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK3131. Encounter with embodiment: Therapeutic use of drama in social work settings (6 credits)**

This is an experiential learning course for students from different disciplines who would like to know more about drama therapy and the therapeutic use of dramatic elements in social work practice. Instead of traditional theatre performance, the course focuses on using different drama games, exercises and activities so students are not required to have any drama/theatre experience but an open and curious learning attitude. With the combination of lectures and intensive workshops, the course offers theoretical foundations, experiential opportunities as well as reflection and consolidation in the topic of Drama Therapy Basis, Drama Therapeutic Elements in Social Work, Developmental Transformations Drama Therapy, Role Theory of Drama Therapy, Psychodrama Psychotherapy, Playback Theatre and/or Forum Theatre. Although the course does not aim at training students to be therapists or specialists in any of the approaches, students can understand different therapeutic frames and elements so to integrate into their professions. It also provides students a picture for further academic development in these areas.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK3136. Application of big data analytics in social sciences (6 credits)**

Do Google and Facebook understand us better than we know ourselves? Are we being descended to lab rats every time we go online? Can we extract information from electronic health records to prevent diseases or even suicide? Is the impartially designed algorithm for

predicting an individual's probability of recidivism truly fair for sentencing individuals who have committed crimes? When big data analytics are routinely applied to nudging our daily lives, the ability to audit the algorithms adopted by these analytics becomes crucial.

The course will focus on elaborating the core principles of a variety of techniques adopted when predicting future phenomena through the lens of big data. We will use a case study approach to provide an in-depth understanding of how predictions are made using various big data analytics. Students will be guided to develop a rich contextual understanding of consequences associated with applications of big data in different scenarios. The goal of this course is to inspire the students to think creatively and critically about how big data analytics can be used to making scientific discoveries and doing social good. Meanwhile, they will also learn to identify potential prejudices embedded in poorly designed algorithms and be able to stand up against the abuse of big data.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **SOWK3141. Contemporary complementary and alternative psychosocial interventions for people with physical and mental health needs (6 credits)**

As the society is aging and there are growing needs of different populations with various needs such as Special Educational Needs (SEN), dementia, and mixed mood disorders. In addition to the existing psychotherapeutic evidence-based methods, i.e., talk therapies, emerging complementary and alternative interventions (CAI) are of high demand nowadays for human services to those under-served or non-responsive individuals in the society. Animal assisted therapy, aromatherapy, ecotherapy, horticultural therapy, meditation, mindfulness and yoga etc are some of the commonly sought CAIs. The proposed course aims at providing students with a broad range of knowledge in popular CAIs and their applications in the human service field.

Pre-requisite: SOWK2137. Theories in counselling or

SOWK2138. Foundation skills in counselling

Assessment: 100% coursework.