

GEOG 4067 Seminar in Social Justice and the City (3,3,0)

It starts with interrogating some concepts related to the ways city has developed over time. The general discussion is complemented by a brief discussion of the Hong Kong situation. It then joins the debate whether spatial justice exists ontologically different from social justice. It is in the interest of the course to develop a more dialectical understanding between social and spatial processes. A list of the social justice issues in the city is then enumerated. The method and techniques of handling these issues and, therefore, form the background for students to practise social justice in the field. These practice experiences are then interrogated in the class with the objective of formulating, more theoretically, a possible urban utopia that is socially just.

GEOG 4075 Seminar in Urban Geography (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GEOG 3027 Urban Geography

This course discusses in depth selected topics of major concern in the Urban Geography and Urban Studies literature. The contents of the course vary from year to year, depending on the current research focus of the instructor. Possible topics to be examined included globalization, world cities and mega-urban regions, housing, inequality and residential differentiation, urban politics and conflict resolution, and new urbanism and sustainable urban development.

GEOG 4076 Urban Cultural Landscape (3,3,0)

This course looks into the urban landscape, specifically (1) its formation and evolution with time and space, (2) its symbolic meanings and effects on urban living, as well as (3) issues in relation to its planning and design.

GEOG 4077 Urban Development and Planning in Hong Kong (3,2,1)

Urban Hong Kong has developed rapidly since the 1950s. The built environment has expanded from one concentrated on two sides of the Victoria Harbour to one encroaching into the New Territories and even spreading across the boundary to Shenzhen. What are the salient features of this urban development, both in the inner city and at the periphery? Is it business-biased? Is it over-dominated by the property sector? How to interpret its growth pattern and dynamics? What is the role of the Hong Kong Government? What is urban planning? This course will be of interest to anyone who dares to know more about urban Hong Kong and develop an urban model within the broader contexts of China, Asia and the West.

GEOG 4085 Urban Development in China (3,3,0) (E)

This course introduces students to China's immense urban transformation process. The course is divided into three parts. Part A briefly reviews the urbanization process. It deals with questions such as the nature of the urbanization process before and after reform, and the question of hukou and rural to urban migration. Part B is on the internal structure of Chinese cities, focusing on urban land development. China's changing land use structure will be studied from various theoretical and methodological perspectives. Part C deals with on China's urban housing. The changing pattern of housing consumption is analysed in light of changing institutional contexts and China's phenomenal economic growth.

GEOG 4086 Urban Planning (3,2,1) (E)

This course introduces students to the field of urban planning. What are the concerns of urban planners? How do they make sense of the problems? What sort of skills is required of urban planning professionals? What are the effects of the urban planning process on the development of our urban areas? Initially, this course approaches urban planning by a historical analysis. We therefore, first, study how cities in Britain grew and developed since the industrial revolution. In doing so, we also trace the beginnings of "modern" Western urban planning, both as advocacies and "ideas" and as actual practices. In addition, the nature of urban planning, especially for the more recent periods, will be highlighted. Based on this preliminary understanding, we

proceed to take stock of the various theories built to understand urban planning practices. In other word, the second part of the course deals with planning theory.

GEOG 4087 Natural Resource Evaluation and Policy Approaches (3,3,0)

This course introduces concepts and methods used to estimate the value of natural resources, and discuss how such information is used for the allocation, conservation, or transformation of those resources.

GEOG 4095 Transnational Urban Futures (3,*,*)

In this path-breaking course, HKBU students will co-produce knowledge with students at Georgia State University. The two groups will meet in Atlanta, USA and spend up to two weeks learning about, and researching how non-government organisations that are "faith-based" influence neighbourhoods, community, and the urban futures of Atlanta. The two groups then travel to Hong Kong and spend two weeks learning about, and researching how Hong Kong faith-based organisations influence neighbourhoods and urban futures in Hong Kong.

GEOG 4898-9 Honours Project (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: GEOG 3005 Field Camp

This is an independent honours project to be taken during the final year of study and normally concerns a particular geographic problem relating to Hong Kong. The project topic is to be selected in consultation with a department adviser. Evidence of original research and presentation of professional quality is generally required.

GEOG 7010-40 Advanced Seminar on Contemporary Geographic Research (1,*,*)

Geography encompasses a wide range of approaches to research, reflecting the diverse nature of the discipline. This course attempts to expose students to this variety, and to broaden students understanding of our human and physical environment. Emphasis is placed on the development of concepts when carrying out research and on the development of methodologies, by using case examples of geographic research.

GEOG 7310 Environmental Contaminants and Health Risk Assessment (3,3,0) (E)

The course is designed to identify, characterize and evaluate environmental contaminants as they are related to human health. Topics include biological, chemical and physical contaminants (both well-known and emergent ones) in air, food, soil and water. The behaviour of these contaminants will be discussed. Methods of environmental health risk assessment and risk management will be introduced; and policy to eliminate the effects of exposure to environmental contaminants will be addressed.

GEOG 7510 Resource and Environmental Management in China (3,3,0) (E)

The course introduces the concepts, knowledge and skills in analysing the environmental and resource management issues in China in five broad areas. Firstly, the course begins with a general survey of the environment-resource-population-development system of China. Secondly, it sets the background for an understanding of the basic environmental issues confronting China today, especially those problems associated with energy uses, water pollution, land degradation, and deforestation. Thirdly, the course discusses the development of the environmental management system in China, and the factors which affect the way regulators and polluters alike have responded to China's environmental controls. Fourthly, the course examines the societal responses to resource and environmental problems, particularly on the awareness and participation of the general public in resource conservation and environmental protection. Finally, the course concludes with an examination of China's Agenda 21 and strategies for sustainable development.