

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

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) (tbc)

Prerequisite: GEOG 3006 or CHSG 3006 Regional Geography of China or consent of the instructor

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) (tbc)

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

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

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.

GEOG 7520 Urban and Regional Development of China (3,3,0)

The course provides students with an in-depth understanding of China's regional development and urban issues. Economic reform since 1979 has shifted China from a planned economy to one driven by market forces. Consequently, economic development has not only re-established cities' function as economic central places but also generates disparities between urban and rural, and different regions. These changes have generated heat discussions on the country's urbanization and regional development strategy. This includes debates on city size, small-town strategy and the abolition of special economic zones. This course introduces students to these discussions and also recent literature on the topic.

GEOG 7530 Graduate Seminar on Geography of China (3,3,0)

Geographical and environmental concerns underpin much of contemporary China. This graduate seminar allows students to develop an in-depth understanding of selected topics on the geography of China. Students are expected to conduct critical reviews of the latest theoretical and empirical works and undertake a limited research project.

GEOG 7540 Energy Development in China (3,3,0)

In the past two decades, momentous changes occurred in the Chinese energy sector, including changes in the institutional framework—moving from state allocation to the market economy—and with respect to individual energy industries. By the mid-1990s, the problem of energy shortage had largely been resolved, yet the country had become a net oil importer, and is projected to import an increasingly larger amount in the future, with serious implications for the security of energy supply and future oil import outlay. The course takes a comprehensive survey of the Chinese energy sector, including the resource endowment, energy policy since the 1980s, the major energy industries like oil, coal, natural gas, electricity—HEP and nuclear included—and the international energy trade of China. Current issues such as the Three Gorges Dam and the West-East Pipeline are also dealt with.

GEOG 7550 Resource Management in China (3,2,1)

This course introduces the concepts, knowledge and skills in natural resource evaluation and management, with the emphasis on and the real-world cases in China. The course is presented in two major parts. The first part begins with the introduction to the concepts about the natural resources and their distribution in China. This is followed by an extensive study on methodology for land and water resource evaluation. The second part presents details about the nature, distribution and utilization of natural resources in China. The environmental conservation and sustainable development in relation to natural resources are also discussed in the subject. Laboratory works for this course focus on resource assessment methods with the aid of remote sensing and geographical information system (GIS) technology. A field excursion to China's mainland is also used to practise field methods for land resource evaluation, and the first-hand experience in the regional natural resources management.