

For ES major: EURO 1008-9 Europe: Unity and Diversity and EURO 2007 The Political Economy of the European Union

This is an interdisciplinary course which explores the recent political and socio-economic evolution of selected societies in the East and West. It focuses on the dynamic interplay of political, economic and cultural forces at the state level of the international system. It also considers similar forces at the regional and global levels which may link or interact with the development of states. Emphasis will be on Hong Kong and China, Asia, Eastern Europe, the Soviet successor states, and the European Union in exploring such transitional currents.

POLS 4226 Public Affairs and Public Policy (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: Year III standing

This course introduces public affairs and public policy analysis to students, particularly how to understand these issues as relations between governments and different segments of society, such as professional interests, social and civic organizations, local communities, etc. Students will be taught to identify main public policy issues such as economic growth, social inequalities, urban development, community conflicts and environmental protection faced by contemporary governments.

POLS 4227 Security Studies (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: POLS 2017 Foundations of International Relations

This course is designed for third- or fourth-year GIS major students or advanced master candidates. It seeks to deepen their knowledge in important fields of IR that are security and strategy. The course will address five main areas of security studies: theoretical approaches to security, key concepts of security, institutions of security, contemporary challenges to security and strategy in general.

POLS 4235 Social and Political Developments in Contemporary China (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 3017 Government and Politics of China

The course examines the social and political dynamics of China's reform. It will begin with a conceptual overview of transition politics in a comparative perspective. It then will analyse political context and reform strategies. The main part of this course will focus on issues such as rural and industrial reform, political and administrative reform, ideological debates and intellectual political thinking. Social consequences of reforms will be critically assessed.

POLS 4236 Theories of International Relations (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2017 Foundations of International Relations

This course aims to investigate the various theoretical and analytical frameworks in the field of international relations. In an increasingly interdependent world where the new world order is yet to be established, a review of the dominant paradigms in international relations will facilitate a better understanding among students of the transformation of global order in the world in the world entering a new millennium.

POLS 4237 Topics in Asian Politics (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and Year IV Standing

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in Asian politics.

POLS 4245 Topics in Comparative and Global Politics (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and Year IV Standing

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in global politics.

POLS 4246 Topics in European Politics (3,2,1)

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in European politics.

POLS 4898-9 Honours Project (6,*,*)

Prerequisite: Year IV Standing in the GIS major

A final year project is required from all prospective graduates of the GIS major. The project is an extended written report on a specific topic within the field of political science, produced by the student under the supervision of a member of staff.

POLS 7010 Advanced China Studies (3,3,0)

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the origin and development of China studies from an interdisciplinary perspective. In general, it evaluates the state of research and substantive knowledge in the field of contemporary China studies. It also examines the works of such noted American China-watchers as Edgar Snow, John Fairbank, A Doak Barnett, Ezra Vogel, Lucian Pye, Andrew Walder, Harry Harding and Nicholas Lardy as well as the recent trends in China studies.

POLS 7020 E-Government (3,3,0)

This course provides an overview of the development of e-government in different countries. The various essentials of e-government are presented and discussed in light of prevailing practice. The tools for assessing e-government performance are also explored. Selective aspects of e-government such as integrating operations among the public sectors and outsourcing will be highlighted, with special references to the settings in Hong Kong and mainland China.

POLS 7030 Globalization and the World Trade Organization (3,3,0)

To focus on the historical origins, development, institutions, practices and effects of globalization, with a particular emphasis on international trade and the international organizations which developed to regulate and negotiate it. The WTO will be placed in its historical and development context with other international institutions, with a selection of case studies to highlight particular areas of the WTO's greatest accomplishments or weaknesses so that one of the key components of modern globalization can be fully understood in its dynamic international context. The effects of the WTO and international trade on the national policy-maker will be examined, such as its impacts on Hong Kong and mainland China.

POLS 7040 Law and Public Affairs (3,3,0)

This course provides advanced studies on the legal knowledge relevant to public affairs with an emphasis on existing practices in Hong Kong and mainland China. Topics include the legal system, constitutional and administrative law, criminal justice and economic law. On the other hand, the course tries to help students to have a comprehensive understanding of public affairs including public policy-making, political economy, mass media in politics and foreign policy. Comparison with Hong Kong and worldwide practices will be highlighted and discussed.

POLS 7050 Public Administration (3,3,0)

Public policy has been described as a process, a cycle, an interaction of decision-making and reaction-taking by governmental and non-governmental agents and agencies. Public Administration deals with properly structuring and deploying the assets given to government to achieve stated aims. Public Policy deals with deciding what assets government needs to achieve the aims the public thinks government is both capable of doing and necessary to do. Public Administration is how civil servants employ the assets entrusted to them and effectuate the processes developed by them or designed for them by political entities to achieve these purposes. Public Administration also necessarily includes evaluation of how well those aims have been achieved and those assets have been used, and what must be done to either better accomplish the task or better deploy the social and economic assets involved—that is, to change the policy or change