

SOC 7010 Theory, Methodology and Practice in Sociology (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course introduces students to advanced studies in sociological theory, methods and practice. It places emphasis upon topics such as social network analysis, multi-level analysis, biographical approaches, comparative-historical methods, ethnography, feminist methodology, and visual sociology. The course consists of a number of modules which may be taught by one or more staff.

SOC 7020 Advanced Seminar on Contemporary Sociological Issues (3,0,3)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course will involve a semester's guided study in an area apposite to the major research interest of the student. This may include for example such areas as "Feminism and Work", "The Culture of Poverty", "Occupational Identities and Life Course Trajectories", "Social Networks and Stratification", and "Gender, Media and Modernity". Students will be expected to read widely and discuss the differing contributions of leading scholars in the selected fields. They will be required to identify the theoretical paradigms used and the methodological implications of these, to develop an annotated bibliography, and to make regular written and oral presentations of their work.

SOC 7310 Globalization and Development: Visions and Issues (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course aims to: (1) familiarize students with issues and approaches in globalization and development; (2) provide opportunities for students to engage in conceptualizing issues in globalization and development; and (3) enable students to reflect critically about alternative approaches to globalization and development.

SOC 7320 Health Inequalities in a Global Context (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course aims to: (1) introduce to students the sociological concepts and methods to the study of health; (2) develop in students an awareness of the social, economic, and political forces at the micro and macro levels that shape the understanding of health, health behaviors, distribution of diseases, and organization of health care; and (3) sensitize students to the challenges of achieving health as a collective good.

SOC 7510 Social Networks in the Contemporary Chinese Society (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course introduces students to the approach and methodology of social network analysis, the most prominent form of structural sociology. Furthermore, it aims to provide students with a critical understanding of contemporary Chinese society through the angle of social network analysis. Specifically, it will identify the key social network concepts and examine major areas of empirical research in social network analysis, particularly those related to Chinese societies.

SOC 7530 Graduate Seminar on Contemporary Social Issues in China (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course provides a forum for discussion of selected major issues in contemporary China from a sociological perspective. The content of the course may vary from semester to semester as decided by a team of instructors. Possible issues to be treated include gender, migration, family, social networks, social movements, social inequality, among others.

SOC 7540 Chinese Social Demography (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the social demography of contemporary China. The focus of the course is on understanding how China's population policies affect fertility

and migration. The course also examines several sociological issues related to demographic changes such as family change, rising sex ratio, aging, floating population, migrant workers and ethnic enclaves.

SOC 7560 Sociological Issues in Urban and Rural Development (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course combines an analysis of theoretical issues relative to urbanization and rural development with a comparative study of these processes in different countries including China. It explores aspects of city size and type. It also examines patterns of urban growth in the capitalist societies of Europe and USA, the Third World and China, and patterns of rural-urban migration. Issues related to the environment and urban planning are considered and special attention is given to the study of patterns of urbanization and rural development in China.

SOC 7570 Chinese Family and Kinship (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course focuses on the family and wider kinship in traditional and contemporary China, emphasizing their characteristics and how these have changed. Topics include: the nature of the kinship system and the structure of the family in China, changes in the family institution from the pre-Communist period to the present, and the consequences and attendant problems of changes in the family and kinship systems.

SOC 7580 Women in China (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

This course aims to examine the political, economic, and cultural forces that are shaping the experience and status of women in the People's Republic of China. Specifically, it will investigate the cultural and structural imperatives of patriarchy in pre-socialist China and discuss how the patriarchal order is redefined, manipulated, and transformed under the socialist rule. It will also review the state policies related to women and evaluate the associated impacts on various aspects of women's status, such as employment, reproduction, family relations, and health. Further, it will examine the implications of market reforms for Chinese women.

SOC 7590 Popular Culture and Society in Contemporary China (3,3,0) (P)

Prerequisite: Postgraduate standing

Popular culture refers to a wide range of cultural practices and genres that are consumed by us in our daily lives. While we usually perceive it as a source of entertainment, consumption, and fun, it is in fact much more than that. Popular culture is a powerful force that helps shape social class, nationalism, gender, race, and other socio-cultural constructs of society. It constitutes a major industry and a significant contributor to the GDP. It is the base of youth subcultures, symbolic resistance, and alternative discourses. It is a major factor that shapes contemporary urban formation. And it is a major link through which the local and the global impact on each other. This course introduces students to these sociological and interdisciplinary approaches to understand how popular culture impact on China. By revealing the powerful social functions and impacts of popular culture, these approaches will equip and encourage students to critically assess their own daily consumption of popular culture.

SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology (3,3,0)

This course introduces some basic sociological concepts, theories and methods to appreciate and evaluate social phenomena or issues in the modern world. The course aims to highlight the relevance of sociology for understanding everyday life or experiential contexts. Six topics/areas will be the focus of this course; they will be illustrated with examples from the Hong Kong and China contexts with which students are by and large familiar. The six topics/areas are: (1) globalization; (2) gender

and sexuality; (3) love, romance and intimacy; (4) inequalities; (5) social movements; and (6) body and society. Through a sociological lens, students will develop a sensitivity to and think critically about the nature of the world that they live in.

SOCI 1006 Hong Kong Culture and Society (3,2,1)

This course addresses cultural, social and political issues in Hong Kong. Sociologically informed studies will be drawn upon to examine the social, political and cultural processes that transform Hong Kong. The emphasis is on the interconnectedness of social institutions and the interchanges between personal lives and public histories. Special attention will be paid to how economic transformations, governmental projects and social movements re-define social boundaries and re-make cultural practices in Hong Kong.

SOCI 1007 Hong Kong Society (3,3,0) (C)

This course focuses on the social structures and processes of Hong Kong. The topics include demographic processes and changes in the population structure, state-society relationships and forms of public participation, housing and urban development, family structures and processes, economic development and organization of livelihood, social inequalities and social movements.

SOCI 2005 Qualitative Methods of Social Research (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

This course provides an understanding to qualitative research methods and the intellectual grounds on which they stand. It will address the theoretical, ethical and practical issues that arise in the conduct of qualitative research. The course takes a "hands on" approach and students are expected to learn by practicing a range of qualitative approaches. Readings are concerned with not only the differing research contexts and appropriate methodologies, but also the basic procedures of participant observation, intensive interviewing and focus group interviewing, as well as content analysis and image-based analysis.

SOCI 2006 Social Statistics (3,2,1)

This course is an introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics. Major topics include measures of central tendency and dispersion, the concepts of normal distribution and sampling, the logic of hypothesis testing, and various parametric as well as nonparametric tests and measures.

SOCI 2007 Quantitative Methods of Social Research (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: (1) SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology and (2) SOCI 2006 Social Statistics

This course develops students' understandings of the basic principles and procedures in carrying out quantitative social research. Students will be required to participate in a survey, through which they would learn how to formulate a research problem, construct a questionnaire, draw a sample, conduct an interview, code and input data, analyse and present data, and write a research report.

SOCI 2015 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: (1) Year II standing and (2) SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

This course provides an introduction to the classical sociological tradition. The classical tradition is commonly understood to refer to a body of work produced in the period from the latter half of the 19th century to the early decades of the 20th century. It principally comprises the writings of Karl Marx, Max Weber and Emile Durkheim, although other thinkers have been added by various commentators. The writings of Georg Simmel are typically included today in the classical tradition. Together these writers are widely seen as responsible for the establishment of

sociology as an integrated discourse of social analysis and theory-building. Each of these are thinkers of immense intellectual power and scope, drawing upon earlier traditions of thought and reformulating them into novel and distinctive forms. More importantly, they were able to crystalize fundamental social processes in providing remarkably insightful and compelling accounts of key historical developments and transformations. Their separate and in many ways alternative explanations of the rise and course of modern capitalist society and economy continue to be invaluable resources for sociological analysis. Their works help us answer questions concerning the relationship between the individual and society, the basis of social order and social change, the nature of social constraint and structure, and the bases and possibilities of individual and collective action. On completion of this course students will understand the major concepts and arguments in classical sociological theories and be able to apply the various theoretical perspectives in analyses of social conflict, solidarity, and social change.

SOCI 2016 Modern Chinese Society (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: (1) Year II standing and (2) SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

This course provides students with an introduction to contemporary China from a sociological perspective. China not only represents one of the major civilizations in the world, it is also a society that has gone through tremendous social changes in the past six decades. This course examines the interplay among ideology, state, economy and society, which constitutes the dynamics of social changes in China. It will cover macro-level topics, such as social organization, social control, social stratification and social mobility, as well as micro-level topics such as family, gender and other topics related to lives of individuals in contemporary China.

SOCI 2017 Popular Culture and Society (3,3,0) (C)

Prerequisite: SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

Popular culture refers to a wide range of cultural practices and genres that are consumed by us in our daily lives. While we usually perceive it as a source of entertainment, consumption, and fun, it is in fact much more than that. Popular culture is a powerful force that helps shape social class, nationalism, gender, race, and other socio-cultural constructs of society. It constitutes a major industry and a significant contributor to the GDP. It is the base of youth subcultures, symbolic resistance, and alternative discourses. It is a major factor that shapes contemporary urban formation. And it is a major link through which the local and the global impact on each other. This course introduces students to these sociological and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of popular culture. By revealing the powerful social functions and impacts of popular culture, these approaches will equip and encourage students to critically assess their own daily consumption of popular culture.

SOCI 2025 Population Studies (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: (1) Year II standing and (2) SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

This course introduces students to the major concepts and theories in the analysis of population phenomena. The emphasis is on the understanding of population structures and processes and their relationships with the social, economic and cultural context in both more developed and less developed countries.

SOCI 2026 Self and Society (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: SOCI 1005 Invitation to Sociology or CHSS 1005 Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology

This course explores the dynamics of interactions between individual, group, and society in the context of a mediated and globalizing world. It aims to show how culture, social structure,