

SOC 2650 Global Social Transformations (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: Year II standing and CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110 Invitation to Sociology

This course will examine major debates on global social, economic and political transformations. It has three major parts. The first part will study major theorizations of globalization, exploring different social thinkers' visions of socioeconomic arrangements and personal existence under the condition of globality. Relevant social thinkers might include Anthony Giddens, Ulrich Beck, David Harvey, Manuel Castells, Mike Featherstone, and other possibilities. The second part will focus on the global integration of economic activities. It will examine whether economic globalization has actually occurred and, if so, the novel arrangements associated with economic production and coordination. It will also examine the social implications of global economic integration, analysing its impact on alleviating poverty and income inequality on a global scale, as well as challenges and hardships it imposes on people from different parts of the world. The third part will target on global economic integration and the state. In particular, it will examine whether globalization has led to the eclipse of the development and welfare state, whether it has weakened the draw of nationalist sentiments, and whether the new consciousness of "global citizenship" has indeed emerged. The last point will be explored in part through case studies of various "global" social movements.

SOC 2680 Sociology of Health and Illness (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110 Invitation to Sociology
Medical teaching has traditionally relied heavily upon a biological model of illness, whereas this course places the promotion of health and the prevention and management of disease in a social context, with emphasis upon Chinese communities. It is concerned with understanding individuals as persons, with their own beliefs, social networks and social roles. The course demonstrates how clinical and social aspects of the medical task are closely interrelated and influence patient care and clinical and medical outcomes. The course aims to develop a critical approach to medical care and to give students the ability to assess competing explanations of sickness and well-being. It equips students with conceptual tools that can be applied in a variety of clinical and health service contexts.

SOC 2690 Understanding Chinese Society in Hong Kong and the Mainland (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: Year II standing

The course addresses the manner in which traditional and modern values are interwoven in the fabric of Chinese society. It explores patterns of social organization including issues relating to family, gender, kinship, community association and citizenship. It also examines evidence of continuity and change in cultural traditions and the problems of evaluating the costs and benefits of cultural transformation. The course then moves to pose questions about the nature of Chinese identity and the modern meaning of being Chinese in a variety of different societal contexts. This course will be taught entirely in English.

SOC 2700 Self and Society (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110 Invitation to Sociology
The course will examine the dynamics of interactions between individual, group and society in an attempt to understand human behaviour. The course will first introduce students to some core conditions and processes underlying social interaction and human behaviour: socialization, attitude, self, cognition, rationalization, and attribution. It will then proceed to examine in detail a sample of social behaviours such as conformity, self-presentation, altruistic behaviour, violence and discrimination. Considerable emphasis will be placed on understanding the functioning of small groups and group influence. As a course in sociology, it strives to grapple with the humanistic possibility of individuality, independence, self-actualization and freedom in human groups and in society.

SOC 3150 Sociological Theory II: (3,2,1)**Contemporary Approaches**

Prerequisite: SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory
This course is concerned with various theoretical perspectives for analysing contemporary social life. The course both builds upon and challenges the theoretical legacy of classical sociological thinkers examined in SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory and demonstrates how this legacy is reflected and reconstructed in contemporary sociology. The course is structured around the framework of the lifeworld and charts the development of the concept in different traditions such as phenomenology, Marxism, Critical Theory, and post-structuralism. This course is open to Sociology majors only.

SOC 3580 Honours Project (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: Year III standing in BSocSc (Hons) in China Studies—Sociology Option

The purpose of the Honours Project is to provide the practical experience and academic training necessary for independent sociological research on topics related to China. The student is required to complete the actual process of conducting independent research, with the aim of producing an academic paper. Upon completion, the student should have learned to conduct a proper sociological investigation. This course will be open only to third-year Honours Degree students.

SOC 3590 Honours Project (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: Year III standing in BSocSc (Hons) in Sociology
A required project for all BSocSc (Hons) in Sociology students. Students will pursue in-depth sociological research on a specific topic of interest to the student under the guidance of appointed lecturers from the Department of Sociology. Students are to consult with their advisors regarding the necessary field study, experimentation, library or archival research required, and how best to integrate this into their Honours Project. The purpose of the project is to integrate the professional skills which have been taught in the preceding two years with specific application to a topic to produce a well argued and documented report. This project will be open only to third-year Honours Degree students.

SOC 3591-2 Honours Project (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: Year III standing in BSocSc (Hons) in Sociology and BEd (Hons) in Liberal Studies Teaching

A required project for all BSocSc (Hons) in Sociology and BEd (Hons) in Liberal Studies Teaching students. Students will pursue in-depth sociological research on a specific topic of interest to the student under the guidance of appointed lecturers from the Department of Sociology. Students are to consult with their advisors regarding the necessary field study, experimentation, library or archival research required, and how best to integrate this into their Honours Project. The purpose of the project is to integrate the professional skills which have been taught in the preceding two years with specific application to a topic to produce a well argued and documented report. This subject is open to Sociology majors only.

SOC 3610 Social Networks and Chinese Society (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory or CHSS 2240/SOC 2240 Modern Chinese Society

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 3620 The Internet and Society (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110 Invitation to Sociology
The internet is one of the most important drivers of social change, a major media form, and a key platform of mass entertainment in the contemporary world. This course will investigate the

complex social dynamics and implications of the internet through exploring several of its major applications. The course will focus in particular on the social impact of the internet in Hong Kong and China.

SOC 3680 Chinese Social Thought (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: Year II standing and CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110
Invitation to Sociology

This course is to guide the students in the readings of Chinese classics from the *Book of Change* to Confucian, Taoist, Legalist, Buddhist, neo-Confucian, and counter-elites' writings to that of the modern Reformers and Revolutionaries in order to interest them in the development of a Chinese sociology. The course will focus upon the previous thinkers' ideas about the origin of society, politics and government. Furthermore, it will study traditional Chinese social problems, social change and the search for an ideal society as reflected in the classics. The course will also deal with the spread of Chinese social thought to, and its impact on, China's neighbours, with special references to its impact upon Korea, Japan and Southeast Asia. Finally, the course will attempt to evaluate the relevance of traditional Chinese thought to current socio-cultural situations and the future development of Chinese communities in particular, and the Asia Pacific region in general.

SOC 3710 Demographic Analysis (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2220 Population Studies or CHSS 3790 or SOC 3790 Population of China

The contents of the course include: the fundamentals of demographic analysis; the meanings and properties of different measures of demographic processes (mortality, fertility, migration, marriage and divorce, etc.); the ideas behind model life tables and demographic models and their applications; and, finally, the technical aspects of population estimation and projection. In addition, several demographic computer programmes will be introduced in the course and will be made available to the students to help them understand the applications of the various techniques in demographic analysis.

SOC 3760 Sex, Gender and Society (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: Year II standing and CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110
Invitation to Sociology

This course examines the concepts of sex and gender as these are interpreted through and acted upon within the social and cross-cultural contexts of contemporary social life. Exploring first the foundations of biological and cultural beliefs about sex and gender, the course proceeds to examine theories of gender formation, the social context of genderization, the concepts of masculine and feminine, sexual violence and harassment and the culturally variable context of sexuality. It continues with feminism and its possibilities, the relationship of sexuality and power, and with certain issues in the study of sex and gender (such as the use of sexuality in advertising, and the place of sex in the postmodern world).

SOC 3770 Social Movements (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 1110 or SOC 1110 Invitation to Sociology

Social movements may be conceived of as public spaces, as moments of collective creation that provide societies with ideas, identities and ideals. Conversely, they may be seen as forms of cognitive praxis which are shaped by internal political processes, being expressions of shifts in the consciousness of their actors in historically situated political and cultural contexts. It is anticipated that in studying this course students will gain an appreciation both of the mechanisms and meanings of the coming-into-being of social movements and of the characteristics of the development and change in focus and form of these movements. The course will attempt to examine social movements which have developed in Hong Kong and China in the light of wider world events.

SOC 3780 Human Management and Organizational Analysis (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory, SOC 2620 Sociology of Work and Industry, or SOC 2630 Social Stratification and Mobility

This course is designed to facilitate students' understanding of current issues in organizational studies. By so doing, it enhances the sensitivity of students towards the variety of organizational forms and the dynamics of organizational activity across cultures. The course explores the methodological issues behind selected organizational research and prepares the students to study organizational contradictions in everyday life. By sensitizing students toward different forms of human relatedness, the course will hopefully equip them to better appreciate the importance of occupational communities and the meaning of "genuine management".

SOC 3790 Population of China (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2220 Population Studies or CHSS 2240 or SOC 2240 Modern Chinese Society

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the population of China. Major concerns include basic demographic characteristics of China and the processes producing their changes. The former include size, distribution and composition, and the latter involve mortality, fertility and migration. Finally, major issues related to China's population policies are examined.

SOC 3810 Sociological Issues in Urban and Rural Development (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 2240 or SOC 2240 Modern Chinese Society or SOC 2610 Modernization and Social Change

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 3850 Chinese Family and Kinship (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory or SOC 2230 Sociology of Marriage and the Family

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 3860 Women in China (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: CHSS 2240 or SOC 2240 Modern Chinese Society

This course aims to examine the political, economic and cultural forces that have shaped the experience and status of women in the People's Republic of China. 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. Specifically, it will review the state policies related to women and evaluate their impacts on various aspects of women's status, such as employment, reproduction, family relations, and health. Further, it will also examine the consequences of market reforms for Chinese women and the roles of women in the economic development.

SOC 3870 Careers and Life Courses (3,2,1)

Prerequisite: SOC 2150 Sociological Theory I: Classical Theory

This course introduces students to the multidisciplinary studies of careers and life courses. It reviews studies on life histories and life course patterns, identifies the basic premises of the life course paradigms, and examines the different approaches adopted in the studies of life courses. The implications of a focus on life courses will be discussed through an examination of the uses of a life course perspective in the following areas: sociology of age, families and social change, careers at work, and social stratification and mobility.