

**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: Contemporary Approaches (3,2,1)**

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