IASP4280 International Asian Studies Programme Senior Seminar
2nd term, 2024-25
Time: 3:30pm-6:15pm, Friday; Venue: YIA 509

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Course Objectives

1. To investigate current affairs and cultural issues pertaining to Chinese and Asian societies, in particular to the Hong Kong community.
2. To train students to conduct collaborative research and pursue teamwork.
3. To encourage cross-cultural exchange between international and local students.
4. To provide an opportunity for inter-disciplinary research and discussion.

Group Structure

1. Students will be formed into groups of four students on each research team.
2. As far as possible, members of each group shall come from different disciplines in at least two different faculties. The disciplines of Faculty of Business Administration students are identified by their major.

Project Structure and Topics

1. Each member of the research group should approach the topic from their own discipline. By doing so, each student will gain an all-round knowledge and diverse perspective of the topic and engage in inter-disciplinary discussion.
2. As each group will be comprised of international and local students, a comparative analysis should be made of varying international perspectives.
3. The scope of the research topic to be selected is very wide. Some suggested areas include:
   - Anthropology, history, philosophy, and society
   - Cultural, economics, global, moral, political, and technological issues
   - Developments and discoveries in different fields
4. Sample of research topics in previous academic years for reference:
   - Attitudes towards Death: A Comparative Study of Beliefs around Death and Funerary Customs in Danish Protestant Christianity and Traditional Religions of Hong Kong
   - A Comparative Analysis of Low Fertility Rates in Hong Kong and South Korea
   - Gender Equality in the Workplace: A Cross-Cultural Comparison (Hong Kong and India, Japan)

Course Assessment

1.	Presentation	Oral presentation, contents, format & discussion Should not exceed 45 minutes	30%
2.	Discussion	Participation in open discussion (45 minutes per session)	20%
3.	Written report	Between 6,000 and 10,000 words (20-35 pages) **Due on: 25 April 2025**	50%

Class Schedule

Week	Date		Tasks
1	January	10	Introduction & presentation arrangement / Organization of research teams
2		17	Discussion on research topic / research methods / how to structure a research paper
3		24	Submit preliminary research topic
4		31	No class – Chinese New Year Holiday
5	February	7	Consultation & group research
6		14	
7		21	
8		28	
9	March	7	No class – Reading Week
10		14	Consultation & group research
11		21	Group presentation and discussion*
12		28	Group presentation and discussion*
13	April	4	No class – Ching Ming Festival
14		11	Group presentation and discussion*
		18	No class – Good Friday
		25	Research paper due

*Note: * Two group presentations per week and attendance required. Each presentation lasts about 30-40 minutes and followed by group discussion.*

Honesty in Academic Work

The Chinese University of Hong Kong places very high importance on honesty in academic work submitted by students, and adopts a policy of **zero tolerance** on academic dishonesty. Your attention is drawn to webpages maintained by the Academic and Quality Section of the CUHK Registry for important information relevant to this topic here. You are strongly advised to view the video on Academic Honesty as well.

According to CUHK regulations, every assignment handed in should be accompanied by a signed declaration. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible should there be any plagiarized contents/undeclared multiple submission in the group project, irrespective of whether you have signed the declaration and whether you have contributed directly or indirectly to the problematic contents.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submission. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.