Department of Sociology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
1st term, 2020-21

Course Code: SOCI5501
Title: Sociology and Modern Life 現代生活社會學

Course overview

The course introduces major concepts, theories, and issues commonly utilized within the major areas of sociological investigation. It is designed to familiarize students with sociologically way of thinking, in contrast to other ways of seeing the world around us. We will emphasize the crucial importance of institutions in mediating the relations between the individual and the larger society in a historical context, from the rise of modernity to the "late modernity".

本科引介社會學的主要不同研究範疇，並介紹當中一些重要的理論及概念。主要的目的是希望同學能認識並熟悉社會學的獨特取態及思考方式。在這基礎學科中，我們會從現代社會興起到現在的「晚期現代性」的歷史脈絡出發，檢視個人及各種社會制度(如教育、醫療、傳媒、經濟等)的變遷。

Learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to
1. have a basic understanding of sociological perspective and a number of selected sociological key concepts.
2. demonstrate the ability to think in a sociological way.
3. apply different sociological perspectives/ key concepts on everyday life.

Learning activities

	Hr/ In/out class	Mandatory activity (M)/ Optional activity (O)/ Not applicable (NA)
Lecture	2.5/ in-class	M
Discussion	0.5/ in-class	M

Tentative Assessment scheme

Task Nature	Weight
Class Quizzes (Best 4)	20%
Mid-term exam	40%
Final Essay	40%

Grade Descriptors

Grade A: A thorough understanding of the course materials and an outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.
Grade A-: A solid understanding of the course materials and an outstanding performance on almost all learning outcomes.
Grade B: An adequate understanding of the course materials and a substantial performance, on average, on all learning outcomes.
Grade C: A basic understanding of the course materials and a satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.
Grade D: A partial understanding of the course materials and an inadequate performance on a number of learning outcomes.
Grade F: A poor understanding of the course materials and an unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.

Feedback for evaluation:

Students' feedback can be obtained through course evaluation.

Tentative Course schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Teaching and Learning Activities
1	10 Sept	Introduction: Sociology and Its Promise	Online lecture
2	17 Sept	Asking and Answering Sociological Questions: Theories, Perspectives and Researches	Online lecture
3	24 Sept	The Changing World: The Rise of Modern Society and After	Online lecture
		National Day Public Holiday	
4	8 Oct	The Life Course	Online lecture/ tutorial
5	15 Oct	Social Interaction and Everyday Life	Online lecture/ tutorial
6	22 Oct	Social Institution: Marriage and Family	Online lecture/ tutorial
7	29 Oct	Social Institution: Education	Online lecture/ tutorial
8	5 Nov	Social Institution: Mass Media and Popular Culture	Online lecture/ tutorial
9	12 Nov	Mid-term Examination	Online lecture/ tutorial
10	19 Nov	Social Institution: Work and Leisure	Online lecture/ tutorial
11	26 Nov	Social Divide: Social stratification and social class	Online lecture/ tutorial
12	3 Dec	Social Divide in Digital Age*	Online lecture/ tutorial
13	Make-up Class TBC	Sociology and its Promises: Reclaiming Conversation and be "Together" in New Modernity*	Online lecture/ tutorial

General References

Anderson, Benedict (2006). *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Verso Books.

Bauman, Zygmunt & Tim May (2001). Thinking Sociologically (2nd Edition). Wiley-Blackwell.

Beck, Ulrich (1992). *Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity*. London: Sage.

Berger, Peter L. (1966) Invitation to sociology: a humanistic perspective. Harmondsworth, Eng.: Penguin Books.

Berger, Peter & Thomas Luckmann (1991). *The social construction of reality; a treatise in the sociology of knowledge.* Garden City, N.Y., Doubleday.

Castells, M. (2000). *The Rise of the Network Society* (2nd Edition). Oxford: Blackwell.

Drucker, Peter F. (1993). Post-Capitalist Society. New York: Harper Business.

Giddens, Anthony & Phillip Sutton (2013). Sociology (7th Edition). U.K. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Giddens, Anthony & Phillip Sutton (2017). Essential concepts in sociology (2th edition). Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.

Mills, C. Wright (1959). The Sociological Imagination. New York: Oxford University Press.

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ .

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

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 receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

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Teaching Venue:	CKB LT3
Details of course website	Course materials will be uploaded on Blackboard