

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Public Policy  
with effect from Semester A 2017/2018**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Social Change and Urbanisation in Contemporary China

**Course Code:** POL5705

**Course Duration:** One semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P5

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Precursors:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

The course aims to enable students to identify the urban and social transformation of Chinese society since the market reforms and to understand its implications for both the development of the country and lives of its people. Major urban and social development issues such as urbanization, rural-urban migration, land use and housing, environmental protection, social re-stratification and inequality, civic society and the changing state-society relations will be examined and evaluated in the context of the changing institutional framework and increasing wealth of the country.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	identify the major urban and social transformation of as well as the challenges to the Chinese society since the market reforms	20		x	
2.	outline the existing and emerging institutional framework in urban and social policies in China	20		x	x
3.	Apply and integrate the knowledge from urban and social studies in analyzing the existing and emerging problems in the social and urban arenas in China	30	x	x	x
4.	present their ideas clearly, systematically and critically, both in verbal and written forms.	30	x	x	x
		100%			

**A1: Attitude**

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

**A2: Ability**

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

**A3: Accomplishments**

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CIOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CISO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Lectures	Identify key issues and outline major institutional framework in social change and urbanisation; introduce major analytic frameworks in analysing social and urban issues	x	x			3 hours per week
Student Presentations	develop students' capacity in identifying and critically evaluate important issues in urban and social arenas	x	x	x	x	
Class discussion	enhances debates and the assessment of competing theories; develops students' communication skills.	x	x	x	x	
Essay Writing	advances students' ability in integrating information, develops analytic and communication skills	x	x	x	x	3
Readings	three to four articles or book chapters per week to broaden their understanding of the literature, theories and policies.	x	x	x		3

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CIOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CISO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
Term paper	x	x	x	x	40%	
Presentation and participation	x	x	x		20%	
Test	x	x	x	x	40%	
					100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Term paper	Understand urban and social issues in China and able to offer critical analysis of such issues and related policies	Demonstrating comprehensive, in-depth understanding of urban and social issues in China and able to offer a clear and critical analysis of such issues and related policies	Demonstrating good understanding of urban and social issues in China and able to offer a clear and critical analysis of such issues and related policies	Demonstrating an adequate understanding of urban and social issues in China and able to offer a clear and critical analysis of such issues and related policies	Offer partial but inadequate understanding of urban and social issues in China and able to offer a clear and critical analysis of such issues and related policies	Fail to offer partial but inadequate understanding of urban and social issues in China and able to offer a clear and critical analysis of such issues and related policies
Presentation and participation	Understand the theories and concepts in the particular topic, find appropriate case studies to illustrate the theories or concepts and present clearly in tutorial sessions.	Demonstrating comprehensive, in-depth understanding of the theories and concepts, able to offer a clear and critical analysis of empirical cases using the concepts, and have a well-organized and thoughtful presentation.	Demonstrating good understanding of the theories and concepts, able to offer a clear and critical analysis of empirical cases using the concepts, and have a well-prepared presentation.	Demonstrating an adequate understanding of the theories and concepts, able to offer a clear and critical analysis of empirical cases using the concepts, and have a clear presentation.	Offer partial understanding of the theories and concepts, able to offer some analysis of empirical cases using the concepts, and have a clear presentation.	Fail to offer partial but inadequate understanding of the theories and concepts, able to offer a clear and critical analysis of empirical cases using the concepts, and presentation is not clear.
Test	Understand the major concepts and theories in urban and social issues in China and offer a clear and critical analysis of the issues and related policies.	Demonstrating comprehensive, in-depth understanding of both the theories and empirical issues in urban and social changes in contemporary China and have a critical argument in the answers.	Demonstrating good understanding of both the theories and empirical issues in urban and social changes in contemporary China and have a critical argument in the answers.	Demonstrating adequate understanding of both the theories and empirical issues in urban and social changes in contemporary China and have a critical argument in the answers.	Offer partial understanding of both the theories and empirical issues in urban and social changes in contemporary China and have a critical argument in the answers.	Fail to offer understanding of both the theories and empirical issues in urban and social changes in contemporary China and have a critical argument in the answers.

### **Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### **1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

The context (market reforms and changing urban institutional); The land and housing market (housing and land reform, real estate market, urban redevelopment, public housing development); Social Re-stratification (new middle class, urban poverty, rural-urban migration); Social stability and changing social control (urban activism, control of the cyberspace, neighbourhood governance); Spatial transformation (urban sprawl and high density living, enclave urbanism).

#### **2. Reading List**

##### **2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

1. Fulong Wu, Chris Webster (2010) Marginalization in urban China [electronic resource] : Comparative perspectives, Basingstoke : Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
2. Fulong Wu, Jiang Xu, and Anthony Gar-On Yeh. (2007) Urban development in post-reform China : state, market, and space / London ; New York : Routledge.
3. Heberer, Thomas. (2011) The politics of community building in urban China, Abingdon, Oxford ; New York : Routledge.
4. John R. Logan. (2008) Urban China in transition, Malden, MA ; Oxford : Blackwell Pub. Ltd.
5. Li Shi and Hiroshi Sato (2006) Unemployment, inequality and poverty in urban China, London ; New York : Routledge.
6. Li Zhang and Aihwa Ong (2008) Privatizing China: socialism from afar Ithaca : Cornell University Press.
7. Ma, L.J.C. & F. Wu (Eds.) Restructuring the Chinese City: Changing Society, Economy and Space, Oxford etc.: Routledge,
8. Murphy, Rachel (2009) Labour migration and social development in contemporary China London ; New York : Routledge.
9. Shahid Yusuf, Anthony Saich (2008) China urbanizes : consequences, strategies, and policies, Washington, D.C. : World Bank.
10. Wang, Ya Ping (2004) Urban poverty, housing and social change in China, London ; New York : Routledge.
11. Wu, Weiping (2013) The Chinese City, London: Routledge
12. Ya Ping Wang and Alan Murie (1999) Housing policy and practice in China, Basingstoke, Hants. : Macmillan ; New York : St. Martin's Press.
13. Zhang, Li, (2001) Strangers in the city : reconfigurations of space, power, and social networks within China's floating population, Stanford, Calif. : Stanford University Press.

##### **2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

1. The Urban china research network, University at Albany, <http://mumford.albany.edu/chinanet/>