City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Applied Social Sciences
with effect from Semester A in 2012/2013

Part I

Course Title: Social Impact Assessment
Course Code: SS6401
Course Duration: One semester
No. of Credit Units: 3
Level: P6
Medium of Instruction: English
Medium of Assessment: English
Prerequisites: Nil
Precursors: Nil
Equivalent Courses: Nil
Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims:

This course aims to provide students with knowledge in social impact assessment (SIA) and training in conducting SIA surveys.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>describe key concepts of and theoretical approaches to social impact assessment (SIA);</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>examine SIA tools, types, steps, processes and models;</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>identify SIA on selected cases;</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. review and conduct SIA projects; interpret SIA results and generate SIA reports; and 50%

5. evaluate critically problems, challenges and the future of SIA in Hong Kong. 20%

**Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)**
*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students’ achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No.</th>
<th>TLA1</th>
<th>TLA2</th>
<th>TLA3</th>
<th>Hours / course (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 2</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 3</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 4</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>√</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 5</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TLA1: Lecture**
Lecture on (1) key concepts and theoretical approaches on SIA, (2) SIA tools, types, steps, processes and models, (3) selected SIA cases, and (4) problems, challenges and the future of SIA in Hong Kong.

**TLA2: Group Discussion**
Group discussion on (1) – (4) above introduced in the lectures.

**TLA3: Workshop**
Workshop on (1) the application of SIA research methods and designs, and (2) proposal writing.
Assessment Tasks/Activities
(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No.</th>
<th>Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1-5</td>
<td>AT1: Workshop Participation &amp; Discussion</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1-5</td>
<td>AT2: Individual Research Proposal</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

AT1: Workshop Participation and Discussion
Students are required to discuss concepts and theories and their applications introduced in the lectures and perform data processing, analysis, and interpretation.

AT2: Individual Research Proposal
Students are required to write an individual research proposal (3,000 words) on SIA. The proposal is an opportunity for students to extend what they learn to discover new ideas and advance the research frontier.

Grading of Student Achievement:
Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grading criteria in relation to CILOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of an extensive knowledge base.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Evidence of grasp of knowledge, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Student who is profiting from the university experience: understanding of subject matters; ability to develop solutions to simple problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Sufficient familiarity with subject matters to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Little evidence of familiarity with subject matters; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part III

1. Keyword Syllabus:

SIA Approaches and Processes; SIA Methodologies; Principles and Guidelines for SIA; SIA in Practice; Project Design and Reporting; The Future of SIA in Hong Kong.

2. Recommended Reading:

Essential Reading:


Supplementary Reading:


Environmental Impact Assessment Review.

