

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences  
with effect from Semester B 2017 / 18**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ Project \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ SS4295 \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Duration:** \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Semesters \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Units:** \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

**Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ B4 \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Area:**  
(for GE courses only)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Arts and Humanities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** \_\_\_\_\_ English \_\_\_\_\_

**Medium of Assessment:** \_\_\_\_\_ English \_\_\_\_\_

**Prerequisites:**  
(Course Code and Title) \_\_\_\_\_ SS4113 Social Work Research & Evaluation \_\_\_\_\_

**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 aim of the research-based project is to enable students to consolidate their ability to develop, plan and execute an independent study, under the guidance of a supervisor. The course is designed to encourage students' self-direction and intellectual independence and initiative, as well as acquire research skills in an in-depth examination of an issue of their own choice in the field of social work and social services.

### 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 <sup>#</sup>	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	apply cognitive, intellectual, analytical, and time management skills to the task of conducting an independent study project.	35%			√
2.	apply research skills in literature review, conceptualization, design, methodology, data collection, and data analysis.	35%	√	√	√
3.	produce a substantial essay on an important topic and present it with a high degree of clarity, accuracy and originality.	20%		√	√
4.	demonstrate an ability to apply the findings into the context concerned, if applicable.	10%			√
		100%			

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

# Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

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 CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
1.	<u>Bi-weekly Individual Supervision:</u> The student will be supervised by the teacher through regular bi-weekly supervision session for an hour.	√	√	√	√	Minimally 1 hrs

2.	<u>Project Proposal Writing:</u> The student will be required to complete a project proposal with a clear presentation of a substantial literature review, a clear conceptualization of the problem) to be studied, hypotheses to be tested (if applicable), and appropriate research methodology within three months. In some cases, an ethical review of research involving human subjects is required. Upon satisfactory completion of this task, the student will then start data collection or relevant work.	√	√	√		Minimally 2 hrs
3.	<u>Final Project Report Writing:</u> The student will present a project report of about 6,000 to 10,000 words.	√	√	√	√	Minimally 2 hrs

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

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

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: <u>100</u> %						
<u>AT1: Project Proposal:</u> A project proposal with a clear presentation of a substantial literature review, a clear conceptualization of the problem to be studied, hypotheses to be tested (if applicable), and appropriate research methodology is to be submitted within three months. In some cases, an ethical review of research involving human subjects is required. Upon satisfactory completion of this task, the student will then start data collection or relevant work.	√	√			Pass or Fail	1. Some flexibility needs consideration for ethical approval 2. Preliminary meeting to develop work plan is essential
<u>AT2: Final Project Report Writing:</u> The student will present a project report of about 6,000 to 10,000 words.	√	√	√	√	100%	Recommended draft of final report involves consultation with instructor.
Examination: _____% (duration: _____, if applicable)						
* The weightings should add up to 100%.					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)
1. Project Proposal	Ability to apply research skills in literature review, conceptualization, design, and methodology	Outstanding	High	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. Final Project Report	<p>Ability to apply cognitive, intellectual, and analytical skills to the task of conducting an independent study project</p> <p>Ability to apply research skills in literature review, conceptualization, design, methodology, data collection, and data analysis</p>	Outstanding	High	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

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

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

independent study; proposal writing; extended essay

There is no formal syllabus but the procedure will involve:

- students identify and determine, with guidance of supervisor, topic areas for research;
- literature review, development and preparation of an individual study proposal, and going through ethical review if necessary;
- data gathering and analysis;
- preparation and presentation of the report in an academically acceptable manner; and,
- dissemination of the findings and application, if applicable, in the context concerned.

**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.	Alreck, P. L., & Settle, B.B. (2004). <i>The survey research handbook</i> . (3 <sup>rd</sup> ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.
2.	American Psychological Association. (2010). <i>Publication manual of the American Psychological Association</i> (6 <sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
3.	American Psychological Association. (2007). <i>APA style guide to electronic references</i> . Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
4.	Aveyard, H. (2007). <i>Doing a literature review in health and social care</i> [electronic resource]: A practical guide. New York: Open University Press.
5.	Piantanida, Maria, & Noreen B. Garman (2009), <i>The Qualitative Dissertation: A Guide for Students and Faculty</i> (2 <sup>th</sup> ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA.: Corwin Press.
6.	Thyer, B. A. (Ed.). (2010). <i>The handbook of social work research methods</i> . (2 <sup>th</sup> ed.). Los Angeles: SAGE.

**2.2 Additional Readings**

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

Readings will be selected/assigned for individual students according to the topic under study.