

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course offered by Department of Chinese and History with effect from Semester A in 2014 / 2015

Part I

Course Title:	Research Methods for Chinese Studies
Course Code:	CAH8808
Course Duration:	1 semester
Credit Units:	3
Level:	R8
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Precursors: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Equivalent Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	CAH8807 Research Methods for Chinese Studies
Exclusive Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to develop research students' academic skills in carrying out independent studies on a relevant topic of their own choice. It provides good training in how to pursue advanced research in the fields of Chinese language, literature, history, philosophy, arts, culture and cultural heritage studies. Familiarising students with the major methodological approaches to research design, data collection, data mining, textual analysis and criticism, argument formation and literature review, this course will also focus on the analysis of different kinds of research materials and primary sources, as well as assess the challenges and opportunities when adopting these methods in the field of Chinese studies.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Identify the main issues, theories, methods and trends in the field of Chinese studies, as well as the leading scholars and their works in the field	
2.	Demonstrate a good understanding of research methods including the collection and use of research materials, the analysis and criticism of written texts, and the strategies for information management and scholarly presentations	
3.	Critically analyse and evaluate previous research works	
4.	Argue the problems and constraints scholars often encounter in conducting research	
5.	Apply appropriate research methods and strategies in doing research on their chosen topics	

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)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1-2	Seminars	Students are required to attend 5 seminars during the semester.
CILO 3-4	Research Proposal	
CILO 5	Research Project	

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)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1-2	Seminar participation and discussion	25%	
CILO 3-4	Research Proposal	25%	Students are required to submit 1 research proposal.
CILO 5	Research Project	50%	Students are required to submit 1 research project at the end of the semester.

Grading of Student Achievement:

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-, ... F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

Excellent A+, A, A-	Good B+, B, B-	Adequate C+, C, C-	Marginal D
Excellent application of	Appropriate application of	Poor application of research methods;	Wrong application of research

various research methods; Strong evidence of original thinking; superior grasp of subject matter; very thorough in research; strong evidence of critical thinking and intellectual abilities; great clarity and effectiveness in writing and presentation	research methods; Evidence of grasp of subject matter; some evidence of critical thinking and intellectual abilities; evidence of familiarity with the literature; evidence of research; effectiveness in writing and presentation	Some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the materials; some sign of research; little critical and analytical capacity; some problems in writing and presentation	methods; Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course; little sign of research and critical thinking; weakness in writing and presentation
---	--	---	---

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

archive, argument formation, arts, Chinese literature, cultural heritage, culture, data collection, data gathering, database, document, history, literature review, methodology, philosophy, primary sources, research design, research paradigm, review article, textual analysis, textual criticism

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

Recommended by supervisor.

Online Resources

Research Guide for Chinese Studies <<http://guides.library.harvard.edu/Chinese>>
A guide to selected digital resources for conducting research in Chinese Studies
<<http://guides.lib.umich.edu/chinesestudies>>
Chinese Studies - Authoritative Research Guide
<<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/obo/page/chinese-studies>>