

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 Indicators Development
Course Code:	SS6402
Course Duration:	One semester
No. of Credit Units:	3
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites:	Nil
Precursors:	SS5425 Quantitative Research Methods <i>or its equivalent</i>
Equivalent Courses:	Nil
Exclusive Courses:	Nil

Part II

Course Aims:

This course aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills in the construction of social indicators which help students understand their implications in social policies.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting
1.	recognize advanced theories and practices in the use of social indicators;	30%

2.	critically analyze the relevance of Western developed social indicators to the local setting;	20%
3.	acquire knowledge and techniques in analyzing social indicators relevant to social policy making in the local setting; and	20%
4.	demonstrate independent competence in analyzing, presenting, and interpreting relevant social indicators.	30%

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.	TLA1	TLA2	Hours / course (if applicable)
CILO 1	√	√	
CILO 2	√	√	
CILO 3	√	√	
CILO 4	√	√	

TLA1: Lecture

There will be lectures, with topics prepared and presented by lecturers. The lectures may assign students to read essential and/or supplementary readings concerning the topics.

TLA2: Workshop

Workshops are organized to equip students with the knowledge and techniques in analyzing social indicators relevant to social policy making in the local setting.

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	Remarks
CILO 1-4	AT1: Individual Term Paper	45%	
CILO 1-4	AT2: Quiz	30%	
CILO 1-4	AT3: Group Presentation	15%	
CILO 1-4	AT4: Class Discussion	10%	

AT1: Individual Term Paper (45%)

Each student is to write a term paper about the analysis of social indicator(s) in a unique area, following and probably going beyond steps suggested by the instructor. Accordingly, the term paper would apply a problem-solving approach to identify and tackle a social problem, review literature, present and analyze evidence, and assess the effectiveness of the solution helpful to discover useful insights.

AT2: Quiz (30%)

A quiz is to assess the student's grasp of essential concepts and other knowledge introduced in the course. It is necessary to ensure that the student has the foundation for performing other tasks.

AT3: Group Presentation (15%)

Students can form groups to report the general reflection on field visits. These presentations need to apply tone conducive to class discussions and new knowledge publicizing.

AT4: Class Discussion (10%)

Students are to contribute actively in the classes through insightful brainstorming and discussion.

Grading of Student Achievement:

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

- Grading of the proposal, exercise, and participation: based on judgment.

Letter Grade	Grading criteria in relation to CILOs
A (excellent)	Locating, reading, and applying extra works, making genuine contributions demonstrating creativity or deep understanding.
B (credit)	Reading and applying provided works, making some contributions.
C (acceptable)	Reading and applying provided works partially, fulfilling basic requirements.
D (marginal)	Producing something deviating from requirements or expectations.
F (failure)	Not meeting requirements, copying from earlier works or other sources.

- Grading of the quiz: based on the proportion of correct answers.

Part III

1. Keyword Syllabus:

Functions of social indicators; development of social indicators; analysis with social indicators; policymaking with social indicators; applications of social indicators.

2. Recommended Reading:

Essential Reading (Textbook) :

Horn, Robert Victor. 1993. *Statistical Indicators for the Economic & Social Sciences*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Supplementary Reading :

Ben-Arieh, Asher, and Robert M. Goerge. 2006. *Indicators of Children's Well-being: Understanding Their Role, Usage and Policy Influence*. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
Biggs, Selden. 2007. *The Practice of American Public Policymaking*. Armonk, NY: Sharpe.

- Bogensneider, Karen, and Thomas J. Corbett. 2010. *Evidence-based Policymaking: Insights from Policy-minded Researchers, and Research-minded Policymakers*. New York: Routledge.
- Brown, Brett V. 2008. *Key Indicators of Child and Youth Well-being*. New York: Lawrence Erlbaum.
- Diener, Ed, Richard E. Lucas, Ulrich Schimmack, and John F. Helliwell. 2009. *Well-being for Public Policy*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Eral, Louise, and Fred Gault. 2006. *National Innovation: Indicators and Policy*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.
- Estes, Richard J. 2005. *Social Development in Hong Kong: The Unfinished Agenda*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Estes, Richard J. 2007. *Advancing Quality of Life in a Turbulent World*. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
- Haller, Max, Roger Jowell, and Tom W. Smith. 2009. *The International Social Survey Programme: 1984-2009*. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.
- McGillivray, Mark, and Matthew Clarke. 2006. *Understanding Human Well-being*. Tokyo, Japan: United Nations University Press.
- McGillivray, Mark. 2007. *Human Well-being: Concept and Measurement*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave.
- Phillips, Rhonda. 2005. *Community Indicators Measuring Systems*. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate.
- Sirgy, M. Joseph, Don Rahtz, and David Swain. 2006. *Community Quality of Life Indicators*. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
- Wong, Cecilia. 2006. *Indicators for Urban and Regional Planning: The Interplay of Policy and Methods*. London: Routledge.