

PIA5509: THE URBAN MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP: EXPLORING THE CONTEMPORARY CITY

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

The Urban Management Workshop: Exploring the Contemporary City

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

5509

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

POL5509 The Urban Management Workshop: Exploring the Contemporary City

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to introduce students to the theories, institutions, and practices related to urban management, with Hong Kong as a case. The course will combine a variety of learning approaches, including lectures GIS tutorials, class discussions, team research projects, peer learning, presentations, research paper, and a reflective journal, to enhance students' learning experience. The course places great emphasis on the innovative discovery made by students through class participation and group project, which will introduce the students to the Discovery Enhanced Curriculum (DEC) approach. Overall, the course will help students to appreciate the art and science of urban management to get a basic idea for the city of Hong Kong (for those who come from abroad), to integrate socially through group work, and it will help students to adapt to the discovery-based learning culture at City University of Hong Kong.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	Identify the basic theories and perspectives in exploring the contemporary city		x	x	
2	Identify the institutions and processes of urban management		x	x	
3	Assess the role and function of urban managers in managing the contemporary city		x	x	
4	Employ the Discovery Enhanced Curriculum approach to generate new perspectives in understanding the contemporary city		x	x	x

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 real-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.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures	Offer an overview of the theories and perspectives on the management of contemporary cities	1, 2, 3	
2	Guest Talks	Stimulation on a wide range of approaches in urban management by senior urban managers and related professionals (e.g. planners)	2, 3	

3	Preparation reading	To learn to study international literature on urban management	2, 3	
4	Group Presentation	To allow students to work together, and to focus on one particular subject issue in urban management and learn to engage in critical review of such functions	1, 2, 3, 4	
5	Group assignment	To reflect critically review on how a city is managed based on a case study with relevant technical skills (e.g. GIS analysis)	1, 2, 3, 4	
6	Tutorial Assignment	Tutorial assignment to assess learning progress and understanding of basic urban theories and technical approaches (e.g. GIS) for urban management	1, 2, 3	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Group Project Presentation	1, 2, 3, 4	15	-	No
2	Class Participation	1, 2, 3, 4	10	formative; if generative AI is used, it needs to be declared and documentation needs to be provided	Yes
3	Group Paper (5,000-7,000)	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No
4	Tutorial Assignment	1, 2, 3, 4	15	-	No
5	Individual reflective journal (about 1,500 words)	3, 4	20	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Group Project Presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate moderate capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate basic capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Assessment Task

Class Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate moderate ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate basic ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Assessment Task

Group Assignment (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate moderate ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate basic ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Assessment Task

Tutorial Assignment (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate moderate understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate basic understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Assessment Task

Individual reflective journal (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Good

(B+, B, B-) Demonstrate good ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrate moderate ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Marginal

(D) Demonstrate basic ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Assessment Task

Group Project Presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Good

(B+, B) Demonstrate good capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Demonstrate moderate capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor capacity to effectively deliver and present research outcomes, manage time, and collaborate with groupmates

Assessment Task

Class Participation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Good

(B+, B) Demonstrate good ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Demonstrate moderate ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to involve in discussion pro-actively and ask critical questions

Assessment Task

Group Assignment (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Good

(B+, B) Demonstrate good ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Demonstrate moderate ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to theoretically and empirically analyse research questions relating to urban management

Assessment Task

Tutorial Assignment (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Good

(B+, B) Demonstrate good understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Demonstrate moderate understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor understanding of the various theoretical approaches to the study of urban management

Assessment Task

Individual reflective journal (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Demonstrate excellent ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Good

(B+, B) Demonstrate good ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Demonstrate moderate ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Failure

(F) Demonstrate poor ability to reflect on the DEC learning process and outcomes

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Urban economic development; urban environmental issues; urban finance; housing; social welfare; land use; transport; urban GIS

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	LeGates, Richard T. and Stout, Frederic (2015) <i>The city reader</i> (edition) London ; New York : Routledge, 6th ed.
2	Gottdiener, Mark and Gottdiener, Leslie Budd (2005) <i>Key concepts in urban studies</i> , London Thousand Oaks, Calif. : SAGE Publications.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Bridge, Gary and Watson, Sophie (2010) <i>The Blackwell city reader</i> (edition), Chichester, West Sussex, U.K. ; Malden, MA : Wiley-Blackwell, 2nd ed.
2	Brueckner, J. K. (2011). <i>Lectures on urban economics</i> . MA: MIT Press.
3	Henderson, V., & Thisse, J. F. (Eds.). (2004). <i>Handbook of regional and urban economics: cities and geography</i> (Vol. 4). Amsterdam, the Netherlands: Elsevier.
4	Duranton, G., Henderson, V., & Strange, W. (Eds.). (2015). <i>Handbook of regional and urban economics</i> (Vol. 5). Amsterdam, the Netherlands; California: Elsevier.