

# SS5111: SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY SYSTEM AND REFORM

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Social Welfare Policy System and Reform

### Subject Code

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

### Course Number

5111

### Academic Unit

Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

### 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

SS5107 Contemporary Social Welfare Policy: Issues and Debates

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

The aim of this course is to critically examine the development and provisions of social welfare in Hong Kong and mainland China, taking reference of the latest development in international communities, that students could be able to identify the trends, issues and debate in social welfare policies.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify the major concepts, values and ideologies and models related to social welfare policy and social planning.	20	x	x	
2	Describe the major social welfare policies and explain their development in Hong Kong.	30	x	x	
3	Describe the general development of and types of social welfare services in mainland China.	10	x	x	
4	Critically examine the values, issues and dilemmas facing social welfare policies in Hong Kong, as well as in mainland China with reference to policy cases and experiences in international communities.	40	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)
LTA1: Lecture	The lecturer and invited guest speakers will give a lecture to introduce the topic. All students are required to read the "required readings" before the class.	1, 2, 3, 4	

2	LTA2: Tutorials	Tutorials are designed to facilitate students to discuss in smaller groups and in-depth discussion and analysis of the various social policy models and welfare systems and major ideologies, issues and debate in approaches related to social welfare policy and delivery.	3, 4	
3	LTA3: Student Presentation	Student presentation is organized in the tutorial sessions with assigned topics related to the lecture content. Each presentation group is required to use relevant social policy concepts and models to examine in-depth the major controversies in social welfare systems on the strengths and weaknesses, values, issues and dilemmas facing social welfare policies in Hong Kong and another overseas country or the Mainland.	3, 4	
4	LTA4: Student consultation	Scheduled student group consultation is arranged to facilitate more teacher-student and student-student interaction and discussion, more in-depth learning and understanding of knowledge.	1, 2, 3, 4	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	AT1: Individual Paper Students have to write a paper from a list of topics as suggested by the lecturer. Maximum length should not exceed 3,000 words excluding references.	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No

2	AT2: Tutorial/ Student Presentation Students will form groups comprising of 3 to 4 students to apply relevant social policy concepts and models to examine in-depth the major controversies in social welfare systems on the strengths and weaknesses, values, issues and dilemmas facing social welfare policies in Hong Kong and another overseas country or the Mainland. This will then be leading to further discussion by students in the tutorial group guided by the tutor.	2, 3, 4	40	-	No
3	AT3: Participation and Feedback on group presentation Attending group presentation is compulsory except with medical reason (and prove). Students are required to submit their feedbacks on each presentation.	2, 3, 4	20	Allow use of AI to brainstorm and generate ideas	Yes

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

1. Individual Paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 &amp; thereafter)

**Criterion**

Ability to grasp the concepts, theories and knowledge introduced in lectures, assigned readings and class discussions.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

1. Individual Paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Competence in applying the concepts, theories and knowledge they have learnt to critically review and re-appraise various social welfare services and policy in Hong Kong / Mainland China

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

1. Individual Paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Capacity of using relevant materials and organizing an academic paper in a systematic and coherent manner.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

1. Individual Paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Clear writing skills and proper reference citation skills

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

2. Tutorial/Student Presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Capacity of understanding the concepts, theories and knowledge introduced in lectures, assigned readings and class discussions.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

2. Tutorial/Student Presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Ability to apply the concepts, theories and knowledge they have learnt to critically review and re-appraise various social welfare services and policy in Hong Kong / Mainland China.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

2. Tutorial/Student Presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Ability to work and collaborate as a team and make presentation publicly in a clear and systematic manner.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

3. Feedback on group presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Ability to provide constructive feedbacks and comments on other student group presentations

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) High

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

**Marginal**

(D) Basic

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

1. Individual Paper (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

**Criterion**

Ability to grasp the concepts, theories and knowledge introduced in lectures, assigned readings and class discussions; Competence in applying the concepts, theories and knowledge they have learnt to critically review and re-appraise various social welfare services and policy in Hong Kong / Mainland China; Capacity of using relevant materials and organizing an academic paper in a systematic and coherent manner; Clear writing skills and proper reference citation skills

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B) High

**Marginal**

(B-, C+, C) Moderate

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

2. Tutorial/Student Presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

**Criterion**

Capacity of understanding the concepts, theories and knowledge introduced in lectures, assigned readings and class discussions; Ability to apply the concepts, theories and knowledge they have learnt to critically review and re-appraise various social welfare services and policy in Hong Kong / Mainland China; Ability to work and collaborate as a team and make presentation publicly in a clear and systematic manner.

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B) High

**Marginal**

(B-, C+, C) Moderate

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

3. Feedback on group presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

**Criterion**

Ability to provide constructive feedbacks and comments on other student group presentations

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

**Good**

(B+, B) High

**Marginal**

(B-, C+, C) Moderate

**Failure**

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

**Part III Other Information****Keyword Syllabus**1.1 Social welfare concepts, ideologies and models

Ideologies and values of social welfare provisions, liberal welfare capitalism and social democratic welfare capitalism, neo-conservatives and the new Right' s emphasis on market and vouchers, welfare models and welfare mixes, social capital and social investment welfare approaches, social planning.

1.2 Social policy, social development and changes in social welfare services

Development of social welfare in Hong Kong, roles and functions of social work, poverty, social security and welfare-to-work programs and active labour market policies, elderly and long term care, integrative family services, youth services, social enterprises, rehabilitation services, with reference to development of social welfare services and social development in mainland China.

1.3 Issues and debates

Workfare and productivist approach, social investment approach, tri-partite collaboration, anti-discrimination and diversity, reform of funding system, comparison and discussion of issues concerning Hong Kong and mainland, with reference from policy cases and experiences in international communities.

**Reading List****Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	王卓祺 鄧廣良 & 魏雁濱. (2007). 兩岸三地社會政策: 理論與實務. 中文大學出版社.
2	岳经纶 刘洪 & 黄锦文. (2011). 社会服务: 从经济保障到服务保障. 中国社会出版社.
3	Hall, A. L., & Midgley, J. (2004). Social Policy for Development. SAGE Publications.
4	Segal, E. A. (2020). Social Welfare Policy and Social Programs: A Values Perspective (2nd ed.). Cengage Learning.

**Additional Readings**

Title	
1	Midgley, J. (2016). Social Welfare for a Global Era: International Perspectives on Policy and Practice. SAGE Publications.
2	Powell, J., & Hendricks, J. (Eds.) (2009). The Welfare State in Post-Industrial Society: A Global Perspective. Springer.
3	Lee, J., Midgley, J., & Zhu, Y. (2014). Social policy and change in East Asia. Lexington Books.

4	Lee, J., & Chan, K. (2007). <i>The Crisis of Welfare in East Asia</i> . Lexington Books
5	Chan, R. K. H. (1996). <i>Welfare in Newly-industrialised Society: The Construction of the Welfare State in Hong Kong</i> . Avebury.
6	Leung, L.C. (1998). <i>Lone Mothers, Social Security and the Family in Hong Kong</i> . Ashgate.
7	OECD (2000). <i>Reforms for an Aging Society</i> . OECD.
8	Safarti, H., & Bonoli, G. (Eds.). (2004). <i>Labour Market and Social Protection Reforms in International Perspective: Parallel or Converging Tracks?</i> Ashgate.
9	Tang, K. L. (1998). <i>Colonial State and Social Policy: Social Welfare Development in Hong Kong 1842-1997</i> . University Press of America.
10	Wong, L., White, L., & Gui, S. X. (Eds.). (2004). <i>Social Policy Reforms in Hong Kong and Shanghai: A Tale of Two Cities</i> . M.E. Sharpe.
11	王思斌. (2003). 轉型期的中國社會工作：中國社會工作教育協會 2001 年會論文集. 華東理工大學出版社.
12	朱佩蘭 (2001). 安老與社會工作. 中文大學出版社.
13	岳經倫, 陳澤群 & 韓克慶. (2009). 中國社會政策. 格致出版社.
14	社會服務發展研究中心. (2010). 先行先試: 深圳社工專業閃亮點. 中華書局.
15	李健正, 趙維新, 梁麗清 & 陳錦華. (1999). 新社會政策. 中文大學出版社.
16	香港社會服務聯會. (2003). 社會服務的性別敏銳性: 分享會彙編. 香港: 香港社會服務聯會.
17	陳錦華 & 王志錚. (2004). 香港社會政策評論. 中文大學出版社.
18	莫泰基. (1999). 香港減貧政策探策: 社會發展的構思. 三聯書店.
19	Legislative Council - Panel on Welfare services. <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/english/index.htm">http://www.legco.gov.hk/english/index.htm</a>
20	Social Welfare Department. <a href="http://www.swd.gov.hk/">http://www.swd.gov.hk/</a>
21	中國期刊全文數據庫. China Journals Full-text Database. <a href="http://cjn.lib.hku.hk/kns50/Navigator.aspx?ID=CJFD">http://cjn.lib.hku.hk/kns50/Navigator.aspx?ID=CJFD</a>
22	中华社会工作网. <a href="http://www.chinasocialwork.cn/index.php">http://www.chinasocialwork.cn/index.php</a>