

Department of Sociology, Chinese University of Hong Kong
SOCI 2104 Sociology and Hong Kong
2026, Spring
Time: Wednesday, 4:30-6:15
Venue: SB LT2

Course teacher: Lau Siu Lun(劉紹麟)

Email: sllau@cuhk.edu.hk

Office: SB 440A

Office tel.: 3943-5867

Tutor: LEE Tsz-shun, Joanna(李梓信)

Email: tszshunlee@cuhk.edu.hk

Office: SB 411A

Tel: 3943-6608

Tutor: NG Yeuk-nam(吳若楠)

Email: yeuknamng@cuhk.edu.hk

Office: SB 441A

Tel: 3943-6608

I. Introduction

This course would provide foundation knowledge to help students making sense the situation of Hong Kong. Topics will include globalization, identity of Hong Kong people, politics and governance, economy of Hong Kong,

II. Learning outcome

1. To understand and reflect on the contribution of sociology in Hong Kong studies.
2. To master the dominant themes of sociological research on Hong Kong society.
3. Students would understand major trends in Hong Kong society.
4. Students would be equipped with the ability to analyze social phenomena with the aid of social theory.

III. Major references

Lui Tai-lok et al eds., *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong* (Milton: Routledge, 2018)

Carroll, John, M, *A Concise History of Hong Kong* (Lanham: Rowmand and Littlefield, 2007)

Lau Siu Kai, *Society and Politics in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong, CUHK Press, 1984)

Chan Ming K. ed., *Prekarious Balance: Hong Kong Between China and Britain, 1842-1992* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1994)

蔡榮芳：《香港人之香港史：1841-1945》（香港：牛津大學出版社，2004）

Ma Ngok, *Political Development in Hong Kong: State, Political Society and Civil Society* (Hong Kong, Hong Kong University Press, 2007)

謝均才編，《我們的地方，我們的時間》（香港：牛津大學出版社，2002）。

王賡武編：《香港史新編》，上、下冊（香港：三聯書店，1997年）。

IV. Lectures

Lecture 1: Introduction (one session)

Lecture 2: Who's Hong Kong? From a World System Theory perspective (three sessions)

Theoretical guidance: World System Theory

Wallenstein, Immanuel, M. *World System Analysis: An Introduction* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2004)

Hong Kong Reading Materials:

*Young, D. John, 'The Building Years: Maintaining a China-Hong Kong-Britain Equilibrium, 1950-71', in Chan Ming K. ed., *Prekarious Balance: Hong Kong Between China and Britain, 1842-1992* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1994)

*Lau, Siu-kai, *The Practice of One Country Two Systems in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong: Commercial Press, 2017) Chapter 1 and 4.

Tang, James, T.H. 'World War to Cold War: Hong Kong's Future and Anglo-

Chinese Interactions, 1941-55', in Chan Ming K. ed., *Precarious Balance: Hong Kong Between China and Britain, 1842-1992*

Chan Kit-Cheng, 'The United States and the Question of Hong Kong, 1941-1945', *Journal of the Hong Kong Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1979, vol. 19, p. 1-20.

Kwong Chi Man and Tsoi Yiu Lun, *Eastern Fortress: A Military history of Hong Kong* (Hong Kong: University of Hong Kong Press, 2014)

Share, Michael, 'Introduction: Russian and Soviet Policy toward the China Periphery – Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan', *Where Empires Collided: Russian and Soviet Relations with Hong Kong* (Hong Kong, CUHK Press, 2007)

☆ 仇章：《香江間諜戰》（香港：新世界，1953年）

☆ Bickley, G. *Hong Kong Invaded: A 97 Nightmare* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2001)

☆ 羅亞：《政治部回憶錄》（香港：香港中文大學亞太研究所海外華人研究社，1998年）。

☆ 鄭智文，蔡耀倫：《孤獨前哨——太平洋戰爭中的香港戰役》（香港：天地圖書有限公司，2013）

Lecture 3: Group formation and Identity (three sessions)

Theoretical Guidance:

Berger and Luckmann, *Social Construction of Reality: A treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge* (Penguin, 1966)

Hong Kong Reading Materials:

*Ku, Agnes Shuk-mei, "Identity as Politics: Contesting the local, the national and the global", in *Routledge Handbook of Hong Kong Society*.

*Veg, Sebastian, "The Rise of "Localism" and Civil Identity in Post-handover HK: Questioning the Chinese Nation-state", *The China Quarterly*, Jun 2017, Vol.230, pp.323-347

Ku, Agnes Shuk-mei, "Immigration Policies, Discourses and Politics of Local Identity in Hong Kong (1950-1980)", *Modern China*, vol. 30, no. 3, Jul., 2004, pp. 326-360.

Ku, Agnes S. and Ngai Pun eds., *Remaking Citizenship in Hong Kong: Community, Nation and the Global City* (London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2004).

Gordon Mathews, "Heunggongyahn: On the Past, Present, and the Future of Hong Kong Identity," *Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars* 29:3 (1997): 3-13, p.11

羅永生：《香港本土意識的前世今生》（網上文章，2015）

馬傑偉、曾仲堅：《影視香港：身分認同的時代變奏》（香港：中文大學亞太研究所，2010）

羅永生：《殖民無間道》（香港：牛津大學出版社，2007）。

Chan, Selina Cing, "Tea Café and the Hong Kong Identity: Food Culture and hybridity", in *China Information*, 11st, May, 2018.

鄭健銘：《港英時代：英國殖民管治術》（香港：天窗出版社，2015）

陳雲：《香港城邦論》（香港：天窗出版社，2011）

☆ 劉以鬯：酒徒

☆ 許鞍華：胡越的故事

Lecture 4: Governing Hong Kong: British, China, and the local political forces (three sessions)

*Ambrose, King, Yeo-chi, "Administrative absorption of politics in Hong Kong: Emphasis on Grass root level", *Asian Survey*, vol. 15, no. 5, May, 1975.

*Fong, Brian, C.H., "Advisory Politics before and after 1997: In search of a new relationship between state, political society and civil society", in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*.

Lee, Francis L.F. and Joseph M. Chan, "Social Mobilization for Large Scale

Protest: From 1 July Demonstration to Umbrella Movement”, in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*,

Ma, Ngok, “Party Underdevelopment in Protracted Transition”, in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*.

Ma, Ngok, *Political Development in Hong Kong: State, Political Society and Civil Society*, Chapter 5, 6.

Goodstadt, Leo, *Uneasy Partners, The Conflict between Public Interest and Private Profit in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong, University of Hong Kong Press, 2005).

Lau Siu Kai, *Society and Politics in Hong Kong* (Hong Kong, CUHK Press 1984)

呂大樂：〈「麥理浩年代」的殖民性〉，於《那似曾相識的七十年代》（香港：中華書局，2012年）

葉張喻：〈中共第一代中央領導集體解決香港問題戰略決策的歷史考察〉，於《中國共產黨新聞》，2007年6月12日

Tsang, Steve, “Strategy for survival: The cold war and Hong Kong's policy towards Kuomintang and Chinese communist activities in the 1950s”, *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, vol. 25, issue 2, 1997, pp. 297-317.

江關生：《中共在香港》（上下兩卷）（香港：天地圖書，2011）

Lecture 5: Economy of Hong Kong from a Sociological Perspective (three sessions)

*Chiu, W.C. and Lui T. L, “The Hong Kong Model of Development Revisited”, in Wong Poh-lam and Ng Chee Yuen eds., *Industrial Policy, Innovation and Economic Growth: The Experiences of Japan and other NIC* (Singapore: NUS Press, 2001) pp 431-459.

*Wong Hok-Wui, “Real Estate Elite and Real Estate Hegemony”, in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*, pp. 342-361.

*Meyer, David R., “Hong Kong: China’s Global City”, in *Routledge Handbook of*

Contemporary Hong Kong, pp. 414-429.

Ngo Tak-wing, "A Genealogy of Business and Politics in Hong Kong", in *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*.

Chiu, W.C., Ho K.C. and Lui T. L, *City States in the Global Economy: Industrial Restructuring in Hong Kong and Singapore* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1997)

So, Alvin, "The Economic Success of Hong Kong: Insights from a World-System Perspective", *Sociological Perspectives*, vol. 29, No. 2, April, 1986, pp. 241-258.

Chiu, W.K. Stephen, 'Unravelling Hong Kong's Exceptionalism: The Politics of *Laissez-faire* in the Industrial Takeoff', *Political Power and Social Theory*, vol. 10, 1996, pp. 229-56.

Lim, Linda, Y.C. 'Free Market Fancies: Hong Kong, Singapore, and the Asian Financial Crisis', in T.J. Pempel (ed.), *The Politics of Asian Economic Crisis* (Ithaca & London: Cornell University Press, 1999).

* Required readings

☆ relevant books, novels, films, etc.

V. Assessments:

A. Reading report (30%): Students are required to read a memoir of an important Hong Kong figure and submit a reading report. Please see the lecture handout (L1) for details.

- Deadline of submission: 11:59 pm, 29th, April, 2026
- Permission from the course instructor is needed if you do not select books from the L1 ppt
- Please write the course code and your student number clearly on the assignment.
- You may finish it in Chinese or English
- Word limit: 2500 for Chinese, 1800 for English
- You are required to upload your paper to CUHK veriguide.
- Please submit the answer and the signed veriguide receipt to CUHK Blackboard

B. Tutorial (30%): The aim of tutorial is to help students understand the content of the course better. Students will choose a topic from the tutorial reading list and make a presentation in the tutorial session.

- Please follow the instructions of TA to choose your preferred timeslot

C. Examination (40%): The aim of the examination is to consolidate learning. A centralized examination will be held after the term end.

VI: Use of AI

In this course, we adopt “approach 1” of AI policy proposed by the university:

Approach 1 (by default) - Prohibit all use of AI tools In assessing the level of achievement of learning outcomes and students’ performance, students are expected to produce their own work independently without any collaboration or the use of AI tools. That says students are prohibited from using any AI tools in their assignments and assessments that count towards students’ final grade of the course, or for evaluating their attainment of the desired learning outcomes

For details, please see https://www.aqs.cuhk.edu.hk/documents/A-guide-for-students_use-of-AI-tools.pdf

VII: Grade descriptor

A Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.

- Strong understanding of the contribution of sociology in Hong Kong studies.
- Strong understanding of the themes of sociological research on Hong Kong society.
- A strong understanding of the major trends in Hong Kong society
- Demonstrate strong capability to examine Hong Kong issues from a sociological perspective.

A- Generally outstanding performance on most learning outcomes, with minor areas for improvement. Similar to A, but may exhibit minor weaknesses in one or two outcomes.

B Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, leading to substantial overall performance.

- Good understanding of the contribution of sociology in Hong Kong studies, but lacks clarity on some issues.
- Good understanding of the themes of sociological research on Hong Kong society, but needs further development in some areas.
- Good understanding of the major trends in Hong Kong society, but needs further development.
- Demonstrate good capability to examine Hong Kong issues from a sociological perspective, but the analysis still needs further deepening.

C Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with several weaknesses.

- Have a satisfactory level of understanding of the contribution of sociology in Hong Kong studies.
- Understanding of the themes of sociological research on Hong Kong society is quite limited.
- Understanding of the major trends in Hong Kong society is quite limited.
- Able to examine Hong Kong issues from a sociological perspective, but lacks depth of thinking.

D Barely meet the standard on a number of learning outcomes.

- Only have a very basic level understanding on the contribution of sociology in Hong Kong studies
- Understanding of key sociological concepts and theories is quite limited.
- The grasp of the major trends in Hong Kong society is quite limited.
- The ability to examine Hong Kong issues from a sociological perspective is very limited, and the analysis is superficial.