

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介**

### **COURSES FOR 4-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

**CCC8012 The Making of Hong Kong (3 credits)** (revised and recoded from CCC8002 from 2017-18)

This inter-disciplinary course introduces students to essential facts and knowledge on the nature of society, politics and economy in contemporary Hong Kong. Students will be able to develop local as well as global perspectives on Hong Kong society, and will consider implications for future policy and practice from multiple perspectives.

**CLA9005 Economics of Culture and Creativity (3 credits)**

From 2017-18

This course builds a solid foundation for students to apply economic theories to study the arts, culture and the protection of intellectual property rights. Various concepts of “culture” will be explored. Special characteristics and factors that determine the supply and demand of cultural goods and the market structures for cultural goods and productions will be examined. The student will be introduced to the concepts of externalities, private and public goods and various theories of value to illustrate the impact and limitations of cultural policy and public subsidy. The role of culture and cultural heritage in economic development will be explained. Further illustrations will be found in the introduction to the economics of museums and performing arts. The role of the protection of intellectual property rights in the economics of creativity will also be examined.

In 2016-17 or before

This course applies basic economic and financial theories to study arts, culture and venture capital. It introduces to the students the basics of venture capital (VC) industry and several culture industries. The topics covered by this course include the financing of VC, the corporate venturing experiences, the supply, demand and pricing of the performing and creative arts and cultural heritage, the financing of the arts and cultural activities, and why economic incentives and institutions such as intellectual property right protection are necessary to promote creative activities.

**CLA9010 Social Problem Solving and Decision Making in the Modern World (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to social problem solving models to help them find ways to deal with problems effectively in their day-to-day lives. Life is a dynamic process, filled with many flourishing experiences which make life meaningful. However, when some experiences become troublesome or involve problems, people may face uncertainty and be unable to cope effectively. Hence, the study of social problem solving deals innovatively with different types of problems including intrapersonal problems (such as emotional, or personal health), interpersonal problems (such as marital conflict, domestic violence), and impersonal problems (such as insufficient finances). Topics of interest include conflict management, suicide risk, decision-making, and financial investment.

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#### **CLC9005 Finance and Politics: Public Interests and Private Manipulation (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the nature of financial institutions, corporate ownership structure and corporate governance through case studies, anecdotal evidence and academic papers. Students will be expected to develop practical perspectives on financial policies and government regulations, and be able to articulate implications for future financial development and practices in both Hong Kong and worldwide.

#### **CLC9013 Comparative Economic and Social Systems (3 credits)**

This course aims to provide information on principles, organisation, and performance of historical and contemporary economic systems. Topics of discussion include, but not limited to, theory of market capitalism, theories of socialism in its various forms, and the emergence of religion-driven new traditional economies. We will also study a variety of existing economic systems, such as variants of advanced market capitalist and transition and developing economies. The course will discuss transition between socialism and capitalism and contrast the experience of Russia and China. The discussion of social systems will focus on health systems.

#### **CLC9016 Contemporary Socio-Economic Issues (3 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to contemporary socio-economic issues using socio-economics as an analytical tool. Socio-economics is an emerging inter-disciplinary field of social sciences that combines economics-based and sociological research methods. From street crime to global climate change, we are surrounded by problems that can be analyzed with socio-economic principles and practices. In this course, we mainly focus on examples that are relevant to our everyday life. Each lecture presents socio-economic concepts within the context of current issues facing our society. With further discussion of socio-economic theories and policy applications, students will gain more insights into the real world.

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#### **CLD9002 Understanding Social and Economic Indicators (3 credits)**

The course starts with providing students with the knowledge about the nature, meanings, measurements, and limitations as well of major social and economic indicators which have widely been used internationally for measuring and comparing the socioeconomic development of societies. It is followed by applying these indicators in assessing the social and economic development of Hong Kong.

#### **CLD9028 Who's #1? Rankings, Ratings, Critics, and Society (3 credits)** (from 2020-21)

Rankings and ratings affect many aspects of today's world: whether our favorite sports teams advance in championships, who attends our school, whether our preferred restaurants remain open or must close. Yet, who constructs these rankings? How do they do it? What are the social consequences of these rankings?

This course will lead students to answer these questions by teaching basic matrix mathematics in order to understand the language of rankings. Students will then construct their own rankings and study the social consequences of rankings generally.

This course will be accessible to anyone with a basic understanding of arithmetic. The presentation of mathematics will focus on mechanical and computational aspects using software such as Microsoft Excel, not on proving mathematical theorems.

#### **CLD9029 Consumers, Voters and Information Technology (3 credits)** (from 2020-21)

This course covers (1) the basic trends in the developments of information technology in recent years, (2) introduces the conceptual frameworks used in economics and political science (as well as other social sciences) to understand and analyse consumer/voter behavior in perceiving, interpreting and utilising information in forming their preferences and making selection in the marketplace and political arena; and (3) helps students understand better such new phenomena as free goods, consumer lock-in, algorithms, and political polarisation, etc.

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#### **CLE9015 Rethinking Global Issues (3 credits)**

This course aims at promoting two central goals of liberal education: critical thinking and global citizenship. For Lingnan graduates to compete effectively in a globalised economy, they need to develop both the ability for critical thinking and a global vision. The course is designed around a series of questions about important international issues, with inter-disciplinary approaches. Students are expected to see not only the complex nature of these issues but also how they impact on us in Hong Kong from various perspectives. Rather than emphasising traditional lectures and factual information, the course is centered around discussions, debates, and outside-classroom activities, which enhance students' ability to critically evaluate world events.

#### **CLE9017 The Value of Sport (3 credits)**

Sport has become a global phenomenon, but it is also an integral part of society and history at a national and local level. This course introduces students to different disciplinary approaches to understand the development and dynamics of this particular aspect of globalization. Despite evidence of emerging sports monocultures across the globe, this course demonstrate the diffusion of sports has stimulated or reinforced cosmopolitan and ethnic consciousness. In addition, sport embodies and transmits important values that are integral to human societies. Examples will be drawn from Hong Kong and the region, and case studies of some well-known sporting personalities and of particular sports will be used to illustrate the debates.

#### **CLE9025 Understanding Life and Happiness: An Interdisciplinary Approach (3 credits)**

This course applies an interdisciplinary approach to positive living, with a view to equipping students with the practical skills to make the most of their precious lives. It introduces students to the concepts of mental capital and mental goods, and shows how mental capital is shaped by habits and culture. Examples will be drawn from well known personalities and companies, to show how people could be bogged down unnecessarily by “sunk costs and past glory” and how personal effort can make a huge difference to the “set range of happiness” and even circumstances, both of which are over the longer run affected by consistent effort and voluntary choices.