

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

SSC107 Research Methods in Social Science (3 credits) (not offered from 2011-12)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and SSC116 Introduction to Research Methods in the Social Sciences. BSocSc students admitted in 2009-10 or after are not allowed to take this course.)

This is an introductory course on social science research methods. Students will be familiarised with a spectrum of generic research skills; they will also work in teams to propose and implement a small research project. By emphasising action and practice, each tutorial will provide hands-on exercise on one focused area in research skills.

SSC111 Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (3 credits)
(offered in 2008-2009 or before)

(Restriction(s): Students who have obtained Grade E or above in AL Pure Mathematics or AL Applied Mathematics, or Grade D or above in AS Mathematics and Statistics, are not allowed to take this course. Students are not allowed to take both this course and SSC116 Introduction to Research Methods in the Social Sciences.)

This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge in mathematical and statistical methods that are necessary for studying social sciences. It will cover areas such as equations and inequalities, functions and graphs, differentiation, probability and simple statistical tools (i.e. descriptive statistics, sampling methods, and simple inferential statistics). Emphasis will be on the understanding of concepts and applications more than on computations.

SSC113 Linear Algebra (3 credits)

This course focuses on basic Linear Algebra used in econometrics and in social research. It will cover some basic techniques of matrix arithmetic and algebra, and in particular matrix multiplication and solution of n linear equations.

SSC114 Calculus (3 credits)

The course covers both differential calculus and integral calculus. It will cover basic derivatives and integration techniques with one variable as well that with more than one variable functions. Applications to economics, social sciences, managerial sciences, etc. will be covered.

SSC115 Understanding Social and Economic Indicators (3 credits)
(GEB215)

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.

SSC116 Introduction to Research Methods in Social Sciences (3 credits)

(Restrictions: Students are not allowed to take this course with SSC107 and SSC111. BSocSc students admitted before 2009-10 are not allowed to take this course.

From 2010-11, students are not allowed to take both this course and BUS102 Statistic for Business.)

This course introduces the process, structure, and tools of research in social sciences. It

deals with the general logic of scientific inquiry, research design, sampling, measurement and the various modes of research. It also teaches students how to use the fundamental tools of data analysis, including basic quantitative and statistical techniques.

SSC143 Rethinking Global Issues (3 credits)

(GEC343) (This course will not be offered as a BSocSc Programme elective/free elective from 2012-13 academic year.)

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.

SSC201 Trade and International Relations of Asia Pacific (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the economic, political and security relationships between the countries of the Asian Pacific region. This course introduces the basic concepts and key theoretical approaches to international economic interactions as well as international relations and then applies them to the countries of the Asian Pacific region. The course is divided into two parts: the first covering the economic dimensions and the second the political and strategic dimensions of international relations in this region.

SSC202 Politics and Economics of Contemporary China (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to Chinese politics and economy. The focus is on political and economic institutions, political movements and economic developments, and external political and economic relations. The course will cover developments under the regimes of Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, and the new leadership of Hu Jintao and Wen Jiabao. Basic theories, interpretations and data related to the development of contemporary China will be discussed.

SSC217 Statistics for Social Science (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): (a) SSC107 Research Methods in Social Science, or (b) SSC111 Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences, or (c) SSC116 Introduction to Research Methods in Social Sciences, or (d) BUS102 Statistics for Business, or (e) Grade E or above in AL Pure Mathematics/Applied Mathematics or (f) Grade D or above in AS Mathematics and Statistics)

This course is designed to assist students in achieving an overview of statistics and an understanding of its relevance in social research and in everyday life. The course will cover descriptive statistics, inferential statistics on a single sample or two samples, as well as bivariate and multivariate analysis.

SSC218 Environment and Society in Hong Kong (3 credits)

(GEC318)

In general, this course examines relationships between environment and society. In particular, it looks at environmental issues in Hong Kong and the societal and official attitudes and behaviours toward those issues, as well as some of the ways in which environmentally sustainable development might be implemented more effectively through policy in Hong Kong.

SSC219 Methods and Practice of Social Survey (3 credits)

This course is a practical course. It starts with the conceptual knowledge about the nature, logic and process of social survey. It is followed by the learning of the procedure of survey design, including such areas as setting research questions and hypothesis, conducting literature review, constructing theoretical or analytical framework, measuring variables, defining population and choosing sampling methods, conducting pretest and validity and reliability tests, and processing data and analyzing data. Finally, students will be taught the guidelines and format of writing a research report.

**SSC229 The Value of Sport (3 credits)
(GEB229)**

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.

**SSC301 Understanding Sport (3 credits)
(GEC321)**

Sport has become a global phenomenon, but it is also an integral part of society and history at a national and even local level. This course introduces students to different disciplinary approaches to the development and dynamics of this particular aspect of globalization. It will also demonstrate that despite evidence of emerging sports monocultures across the globe, the diffusion of sports has also stimulated or reinforced cosmopolitan and ethnic consciousness. 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.

SSC316 Social Change and Politics in Japan (3 credits)

The course examines some of the more significant features and characteristics of Japanese society and considers a number of social issues that are being debated currently in Japan. It also examines the structure and dynamics of the Japanese political system and assesses the inter-relationships of politicians, bureaucracy and business. Finally, we will consider how Japan is coping with the demands of this new century.

SSC319 Senior Thesis (6 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): SSC217 Statistics for Social Science or SSC107 Research Methods in Social Science or ECO203 Fundamental Econometric Methods. Exemption may be granted by the Programme Director in consultation with supervisors concerned.)

The senior thesis requires students to conduct a piece of independent research on a social sciences topic of their choice. Students will be given the opportunity to apply concepts, research tools and techniques in conducting and writing up an independent research.