

Course Title	: Culture and the Modern World I
Course Code	: CUS 2405
Recommended Study Year	: 2
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Lecture-Tutorial
Class Contact Hours	: 3 hours per week
Category in Major Prog.	: Required Course
Prerequisite(s)	: None
Co-requisite(s)	: None
Exclusion(s)	: None
Brief Course Description	: This course is linked to, and normally the prerequisite of, <i>Culture and the Modern World II</i> . These two courses together provide students with the basic theoretical and historical knowledge to understand the significance of culture in the modern world, including the grasping of the relationship between changing concepts of 'culture' and 'modernity'.
Aims	: (1) To give the students an introduction to cultural theories and themes of modern culture and society (2) To provide the students with a guided appreciation of the western project of Enlightenment (3) To examine institutional, value and experiential aspects of modernity (4) To help the students to reflect upon the experience of the 'western' model of modernity
Learning Outcomes	: On completion of the course, students should be able to: (1) Identify the basic concepts essential for understanding the relations between culture and modern social life; (2) Describe the characteristics of culture and value system in modern societies (3) Explain the principles of how modern social institutions are organized; (4) Analyze how modern social institutions have effects on everyday experiences; (5) Evaluate different positions in defense of the Enlightenment project.

Indicative Content	: 1. The Project of Western Modernity: The Enlightenment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sources of Enlightenment ideas b. Historical Impact of the Enlightenment in Europe 2. Institutional Dimensions of Modernity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Industrialism or Capitalism? b. Power, Bureaucracy and The State c. Class, Race and Gender in Modern Society 3. Culture and Values in Modernity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Religion and Ideology b. Modernisms and Romanticisms c. Anti-modern currents in art 4. Modernity and Its Futures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Defence of the Enlightenment Project b. Reflexivity and Modernity 										
Teaching Method	: - Lectures - Tutorials: students are required to do presentations in teams, to write up reading notes; and to discuss assigned articles										
Measurement of Learning Outcomes	: <i>(The numbers in brackets indicate corresponding ILOs)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examination measures the student's effective command of the knowledge, concepts and theories learned in class. They are required to explain the concepts and to conduct informed discussions of broad issues of modern culture (1-5) 2. Tutorial requires students to give coherent oral presentation of assigned readings (1-3) 3. Written assignments measure the students' ability to summarize and organize the essentials (3, 4, 5) 4. Class participation indicates how the students apply the concepts critically (1, 2) 5. Term paper measures students' ability to organize and defend arguments by making use of the concepts (1-5) 										
Assessments	: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Oral Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Short written Assignments</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class Participation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Term Paper</td> <td style="text-align: right;">40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examination</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30%</td> </tr> </table>	Oral Presentation	10%	Short written Assignments	10%	Class Participation	10%	Term Paper	40%	Examination	30%
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Required/Essential Readings:

Hall, Stuart et. al. eds. (1994) *Modernity: an Introduction to Modern Societies*. Cambridge, Mass.: Blackwell Publishers.

Recommendation/Supplementary Readings:

Beck, U., Giddens, A. & Lash, S. (1994) *Reflexive Modernization: Politics, Tradition and Aesthetics in the Modern Social Order*.

Bell, D. (1979) *The Cultural Contradictions of Capitalism*. London: Heinemann Educational.

Berger, P. (1987) *The Capitalist Revolution*. Aldershot: Wildwood House.

Berger, P. (1974) *The Homeless Mind*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Campbell, C. (1987) *The Romantic Ethic and the Spirit of Modern Consumerism*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Gorz, A. (1982) *Farewell to the Working Class*. London: Pluto.

Giddens, A. (1971) *Capitalism and Modern Social Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Giddens, A. (1990) *The Consequences of Modernity*. Cambridge: Polity Press & Blackwell.

Greenfield, L. (1992) *Nationalism: Five Roads to Modernity*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Lash, C. (1977). *Haven in a Heartless World*. New York: Basic.

McGuigan, J. (2006) *Modernity and Postmodern Culture*, 2nd ed., London: Open University Press.

Mitchell, T. (2000) *Questions of Modernity*. Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press.

Ritzer, G. (2010). *The McDonaldization of Society: an Investigation Into the Changing Character of Contemporary Social Life.*, 6th ed., Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Pine Forge Press.

Wagner, P. (1994). *A Sociology of Modernity: Liberty and Discipline*. London: Routledge.

Important Notes:

1. Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 2 hours of class contact and 7 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
2. Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
3. Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
4. To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.