

GEOG2138 Hong Kong's Environment: Issues and Policies**TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT:** Annual; 1st Semester**CREDITS:** 6**COURSE TEACHER:** Professor Nicky Y.F. LAM**ASSESSMENT:**

EXAMINATION 50 %	COURSEWORK 50 %
• 1.5 hours	• 1 individual research paper • 1 individual field trip report

OBJECTIVES:

This course will provide students with a regional and comparative perspective to examine the complex inter-relationships between the socio-economic-political processes and the perplexing environmental and, ecological conditions of Hong Kong.

COURSE SYNOPSIS:

This course will provide students with a regional and comparative perspective to examine the complex inter-relationships between the socio-economic-political processes and the perplexing environmental and ecological conditions of Hong Kong. This course will help students develop an in-depth understanding of the larger issues impinging on Hong Kong's ecological future. It will also enable them to think critically of the material causes and consequences of the changing nature of environmental challenges associated with sustained economic and urban growth, both in Hong Kong as well as in its neighbouring jurisdictions in Mainland China. The course materials are organized around three major sub-themes to help achieve its overall objectives: the sustainability dimensions of Hong Kong as a compact city, the links between economic restructuring and changing environmental challenges and the constraints of and opportunities for cross-boundary environmental cooperation.

LECTURE TOPICS:

- Air pollution and control
- Water pollution and control
- Noise pollution control
- Nature conservation
- Environmental impact assessment
- Municipal solid waste management
- Public environmental attitudes
- Politics and environmental policy
- Urban planning and the environment
- Cross-border environmental management
- Environmental governance

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

- Mottershead T., (Ed.) (2004). Sustainable Development in Hong Kong. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
- Ng, C.N., & Lee, Y.S.F., (2007). "Environmental Safeguards and Breakthroughs," in Yeung, Y.M. (ed.) The First Decade: The Hong Kong SAR in Retrospective and Introspective Perspectives, Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, Chapter 15, pp. 321-350.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	describe and explain the causes, contours and consequences of major environmental issues in Hong Kong	✓	✓					Research paper, field trip report & exam
2	examine critically the strengths and limitations of policies formulated to address environmental problems in Hong Kong			✓	✓			Research paper, field trip report & exam
3	compare and contrast the similarities and differences of selected environmental challenges faced by Hong Kong and its neighbouring jurisdictions in Mainland China			✓	✓			Research paper, field trip report & exam
4	demonstrate an awareness of the complex relations between the socio-economic-political processes and environmental change in a high-density urban setting	✓	✓					Research paper, field trip report & exam
5	develop their critical reading and writing skills			✓	✓			Research paper & field trip report
6	learn the skills in collecting, interpreting and analysing a diverse set of pertinent reference materials to produce a set of coherent findings			✓	✓		✓	Research paper & field trip report

***Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

PLO1 critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

PLO2 demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

PLO3 identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

PLO4 integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

PLO5 participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

PLO6 effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.