

ANTH 1410/UGEC 1835 Culture of Hong Kong

Lecture: Wed 11:30 am-1:15 pm NAH 115
Tutorials: Wed 1:30 pm-2:15 pm NAH 114
Wed 2:30 pm-3:15 pm NAH 114
Wed 3:30 pm-4:15 pm NAH 114
Thur 10:30 am-11:15 am MMW 706
Thur 11:30 am-12:15 am MMW 706
Additional Sections TBC
Teacher: Prof. Leo Pang (NAH412; cu.leopang@hotmail.com)
Tutors: TBA

Hong Kong is known as a place where East meets West, and a cosmopolitan, global city with a Chinese heritage. How true are these claims? What are the issues arising from the rapid socio-economic transformation of the city? This course gives students an understanding of Hong Kong's culture and its people through an anthropological lens, starting with a review of the city's Chinese roots and colonial legacies, and looks at how contemporary Hong Kong society is constructed in the everyday life practices of the diverse ethnic groups and social institutions in the city. Students will explore the traditions, customs, and various social systems, and learn about the links between the past and present, the local and global, and Chinese and the rest in Hong Kong through close reading of anthropological texts, class discussion, and a fieldtrip.

Learning Outcomes

Students having finished this course will:

1. gain a better appreciation of different aspects of the culture of Hong Kong;
2. know more about the social and cultural changes of Hong Kong;
3. understand the impact of forces such as colonization and globalization on Hong Kong; and
4. develop an anthropological understanding of the values, norms, and culture of Hong Kong society.

Assessment

Class Participation 20%

Students are expected to attend tutorials and discuss the relevant concepts introduced in the lecture and readings.

Photo Essay Based on Field Trip 30%

Due: October 18th

Take four photos of Hong Kong depicting the colonial and Chinese legacies of Hong Kong, as well as other cultural phenomenon covered in class readings and the lectures.

Each of the photo should have a caption of 200-250 words in size 12 font double spaced. The captions can be a description or a quote from an interview and a few sentences referring to relevant class readings.

More information about photo essay will be announced in class.

Online Reading Quiz 10%

20 True/False Questions based on class readings.

The quiz will be accessible on blackboard for 24 hours from 8:30pm on Thursday November 14th to 8:30pm on Friday November 15th.

Final Paper 40%

Due: 12 Noon, December 10. Please hand in a hard copy of the paper to the Anthropology Department Office in Room NAH 407.

Write a paper on any aspect or aspects of Hong Kong culture that is of interest to you based on careful reading of class texts and class discussion. The format should be size 12 font double spaced with 2cm margins. A list of references should be provided at the end of the paper. The paper should be 1800-2200 words (not including the list of references at the end of the paper). Please consult the teacher or tutors about your paper.

More details about the final paper will be announced in class.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Sep 4 Course Overview and Introduction. No tutorials.

Week 2: Sep 11 Chinese legacies

Week 3: Sep 18 Colonial Legacies

Week 4: Sep 28 Field trip. (No class on Sept 26. No tutorials).

Week 5: Oct 2 Housing, Aspirations and Economic Inequality

Week 6: Oct 9 Heritage, Conservation and the Environment.

Week 7: Oct 16 Food and Culture

Week 8: Oct 23 Consumerism, Shopping and Collecting

Week 9: Oct 30 The Spiritual and Supernatural

Week 10: Nov 6 Emigrants and Immigrants

Week 11: Nov 13 Hong Kong as a Multicultural Society

Week 12: Nov 20 Migrants and Multiculturalism: Domestic Workers

Week 13: Nov 27 Hong Kong Asia's World City

Notes for written assignments

The University adopts a policy of zero tolerance on plagiarism. Using someone else's ideas or words without citing the source is plagiarism. (This includes taking material from the Internet without citing the website, or my lectures!). Please familiarize yourself with the CUHK academic honesty policy at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

You may use any standard academic citation style, but be consistent throughout the paper. For an example visit the Anthropology Department website at http://cuhk.orientalecom7.com/en/dept_thesis_style.php.

Class Blackboard

The Blackboard site will be our primary mode of communication. Visit the site for uploaded course materials, including the course outline and reading list, soft copies of (copyright allowed) readings, and lecture ppt (after the lecture). Check the announcements regularly as we will send urgent messages, or information on events that may be of interest to the class.

You may also send interesting information to the class Blackboard to share with fellow students, such as news clippings in relation to the course topics and discussions.

Any questions? You are welcome to discuss with the teacher/TA by appointment, or send your question to the class Blackboard.

Grade Descriptors

Grade	Criteria for 1) the course and 2) for coursework
A	<p>1) Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.</p> <p>2) The work has creatively synthesized course materials and key ideas in an original way. The argument is logical and cohesive, the discussion is well-organized, and the writing is clear. Concrete evidence corresponds to statements and claims.</p>
A-	<p>1) Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.</p> <p>2) The work synthesizes course materials and key ideas in an original way, but there are areas for improvement.</p>
B-range	<p>1) Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.</p> <p>2) The work demonstrates a solid grasp of course materials and key ideas. There are areas for improvement with respect to building a cohesive argument, organizing the discussion, communicating clearly, and/or identifying relevant evidence.</p>
C-range	<p>1) Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.</p> <p>2) The work shows some effort, but course materials have not been sufficiently engaged. The argument and the writing is not clear, and/or there is no evidence for statements and claims made.</p>
D-range	<p>1) Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.</p> <p>2) The work shows little effort to engage course materials. There are major problems with clarity of argument and writing.</p>
F	<p>1) Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirements.</p> <p>2) The work has failed respond to the assignment prompt.</p>