

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**SOCI 4020A Graduation Thesis II**

Second Term, 2022/23  
Tuesday 10:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.  
Venue: WMY 302

*Teacher:* Prof. Nicole Wai Ting CHEUNG  
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**Course Description**

Graduation Thesis is a seminar-based, required course for the four-year curriculum and is intended for the final year students. This is a two-term course (SOCI 4010A & 4020A) and students are expected to conduct research in small groups under the supervision of faculty members. In Term 2, students will focus on execution of the research, data collection and analysis, and results interpretation.

**Reminder on Final Thesis Format**

The research paper should be written in English and follow the format of an academic journal article (American Sociological Review or American Journal of Sociology format). The length of the paper may vary by the number of students authoring the article. Requesting double spacing, Times New Roman font, size 12 pitch and 1-inch margin on A4 paper, I recommend no less than 30 pages for a group paper by 5 to 6 students, 25 pages by 2 to 4 students, and 20 pages for an individual paper. The length indicated here does not embrace references and appendices.

**Teaching Mode**

All classes of this seminar-based course in Term 2 will be conducted face-to-face, unless otherwise announced by the University.

Contingency: If the University announces online teaching due to the pandemic, meeting will then be conducted via Zoom. In this case, students are required to use their full English name on Zoom for ease of identification and attendance taking.

**Assessments of Term 2**

**1. Presentation of data analysis (15%)**

Each project should prepare PPT for presentation. After the presentation, there is NO need to submit the PPT.

**2. Final Thesis (85%)**

Submission of the final thesis of each individual/group project is due on **May 3**

**(Wednesday, by 12:00 noon, HK Time).**

**The thesis in a WORD file must be submitted to the Course Blackboard SOCI 4020A, together with an academic honesty declaration statement generated from VeriGuide.** Email submission to the teacher and the tutor is not accepted. Scores will be deducted for late submission.

### **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>. Our Department also has a detailed guideline on academic citations <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/soc/citation.pdf>.

With each assignment, students are required to submit a signed [Academic Honesty Declaration Statement](#) that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For assignment that is principally text-based and submitted via the VeriGuide system, the Academic Honesty Declaration Statement in the form of a receipt will be issued by VeriGuide upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

### **Final Grade Descriptors of Term 2**

#### **A Scoring 88-100**

- Demonstrate the ability to articulate and elaborate the research questions, theoretical framework and hypotheses, with excellent depth of argumentation.
- Able to fully present the methodology and the research results in a lucid and coherent manner.
- Able to fully interpret and discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework in a cogent manner.

#### **A- Scoring 80-87**

- Demonstrate the ability to articulate and elaborate the research questions, theoretical framework and hypotheses, with good depth of argumentation
- Able to present the methodology and the research results in a lucid and coherent manner.
- Able to interpret and discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework in a cogent manner.

#### **B+ / B / B- Scoring 70-79**

- Demonstrate the ability to describe the research questions(s), theoretical framework and hypotheses, with some depth of argumentation.
- Able to partially present the methodology and the research results in a lucid manner.
- Able to partially interpret and discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework, with organization sometimes being incoherent.

#### **C+ / C / C- Scoring 60-69**

- Demonstrate the limited ability to describe the research questions, theoretical framework

and hypotheses, with modest depth of arguments.

- Able to partially present the methodology and the research results but in a less lucid manner.
- Able to partially discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework, with incoherent organization and somewhat perplexing logic, which is sometimes impaired by emotive, inconsistent or incomplete argumentation.

**D Scoring 50-59**

- Demonstrate the minimal ability to describe the research questions, theoretical framework, and hypotheses.
- Minimally able to present the methodology and the research results.
- Minimally able to discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework, with muddling organization and perplexing logic, which is often impaired by emotive, inconsistent or incomplete argumentation.

**F Scoring below 50**

- Failure to meet specified assessment requirements.
- Unable to state the research questions, theoretical framework and hypotheses.
- Unable to describe the methodology and the research results.
- Unable to discuss the results in connection to the research questions and the theoretical framework.
- Write an ill-prepared thesis with presentation only stating personal and emotive opinions without sociological arguments.