Social Science

a) Under a policy approved by the Senate, exceptions to the general University policy stating that English is the medium of instruction will be permitted when the courses are related to the area of Chinese studies and are approved by the School of Humanities and Social Science. Courses approved to be taught in Chinese carry a [PU] or [CA] notation in the course description, which indicates the spoken language used in teaching: [PU] stands for Putonghua; and [CA] for Cantonese.

b) Courses marked with a [C] in the course description are not taught in Chinese but may require students to read materials in Chinese. Students who have difficulty reading materials in Chinese should consult the instructor concerned prior to enrolling in these courses.

SOSC 1000-1010 Special Topics [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 100-101] Focuses on a coherent collection of topics selected from social science. May be repeated for credit, if the topics studied are different.

SOSC 1030 Contemporary China [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 003] For first and second year students only. An introduction to economic, social, and political development of China, primarily in the last half of the 20th century. Exclusion(s): SOSC 1620

SOSC 1100 Elementary Statistics for Social Research [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 110] This course aims to help students to learn how to design and conduct a statistical analysis to explore an important social issue by connecting between theory, survey and data analysis. The course consists of two parts, a lecture part and a group project part. The lectures emphasize the acquisition of basic statistics including survey methods, descriptive statistics, estimation, testing hypotheses, analysis of variance, regression analysis, and how to use statistical software. In the group project, students gain hands-on experience of statistical analysis by analyzing social survey data collected by students themselves. Exclusion(s): ISOM 2500, MATH 2411

SOSC 1110 Science, Technology and Society [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 111] This course explores how engineering and scientific knowledge and practice are influenced and shaped by the dynamic interactions between science, technology and society.

SOSC 1130 Science, Technology and Business [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 113] Examines the relationship between science, technology and business. Course topics include: economic and business dimensions of technology and innovation, business strategies for science and technology, and technology management.

SOSC 1150 Science, Technology and Work [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 199] The course examines the growing integration of science and technology in our workplaces, the impact of science and technology on the direction of work, the workplace and even capitalism itself. The course investigates how science and technology have been key factors in shaping work since at least the beginning of factory production and generally explores the interactions between science, technology and work since that period. By surveying a range of topics and readings from history, sociology and anthropology of the workplace, this course also includes comparative discussions of science and technology as it is integrated into the workplace in industry as compared to the services.

SOSC 1160 Mass Media in China [C][3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 200Q] This survey course examines the historical trajectory and in particular the dynamics of contemporary development of China’s major mass media sectors, from print media, radio broadcasting, and film to Television broadcasting and new internet media, in the context of the Communist Party-state control and the Socialist Market Economy.

SOSC 1170 Environmental and Energy Governance in China [3 Credit(s)]
This course provides an overview and a systematic discussion of China’s major environmental and energy issues, examining the evolution and effectiveness of China’s environmental governance and environmental policies during a period of rapid economic growth and social and political transformation. The course also analyzes the driving determinants that affect policy implementation outcomes. Students benefit from environmental and energy background and knowledge of China’s political institution and economy.

SOSC 1190 China and the World: China’s Development in Historical and Comparative Perspectives [3 Credit(s)]
In order to help the students better understand the causes and consequences of the economic development in contemporary China, this course examines this phenomenon from both historical and comparative perspectives. The course starts by reviewing the formation of a vibrant market economy in China from 1700 onward and introduce progress made in the studies of Chinese economic history. This historical background is important to view the socio-economic characteristics of the pre-1949 Chinese society and their relevance to modern economic growth. This course also exposes the students to the basic concepts and analytic tools in political economy such as market economy, the state, conflict of interests, correlation and causality, and selection bias. This illustrates the importance of causal explanations in social scientific inquiry and encourages students to compare it with similar causal reasoning in science and engineering.

**SOSC 1250 International Relations**

[3 Credit(s)]

For first and second year students, and students enrolled in the H&SS minor programs. The course examines (1) relations among nation-states and between nation-states and international organizations, (2) major issues in international relations, such as human rights, post-cold war national security issues and international economics.

**SOSC 1270 International Law**

[C][3 Credit(s)]

International law (IL) is a system of principles than govern relations among states and the human rights of individuals. It is mainly studied through analyzing international agreements (treaties), customs and court decisions. The topics taught in this course are the same as those taught in almost all introductory IL courses everywhere in the world, including the history and sources of IL, states and international organizations; human rights; sea, air and space law; environmental law; the use of force; and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Many of the topics are frequently discussed in the mass media and concern events of world-wide importance.

**SOSC 1290 Introduction to Chinese Politics**

[3 Credit(s)]

This course aims at (1) providing students with the fundamental knowledge about the political upheavals that have transformed the lives of the Chinese people since the rise of the Chinese Communist Party to power, (2) giving students a general familiarity with the most significant political evolutions since 1978, and (3) considering some of the major challenges confronting China today. By the end of the course, students will have developed a better understanding of the dynamics and nature at work in contemporary China politics.

**SOSC 1340 China-United States Relations**

[C][3 Credit(s)]

China-US Relations is about interactions between the world's two most important countries. The more than two centuries' long history of the relationship is first elaborated. Consideration is then given to the key perennial conflictive issues on which conflict between China and the US, including economic issues, Taiwan, Tibet, human rights and arms-related questions. Many other areas of conflict and cooperation are also a focus of discussion, especially through student research papers and presentations. The analysis of China-US relations is carried out in the context of the effects the relationship has on the rest of the world.

**SOSC 1350 Contemporary China: Continuity and Change**

[3 Credit(s)]

This course introduces students to the major developments and changes in China since 1949 from a multidisciplinary social science perspective. It reviews the transformative and developmental strategies in the spheres of politics, economics, society and external relations during that historical epoch. It critically examines change and continuity over three periods, namely 1949-1977 or the Mao years, 1978-1989, the earlier reform and open-up years, and 1989-present, the post-Tiananmen years.

**SOSC 1410 Introduction to Game Theory**

[3 Credit(s)]

Fundamentals of utility theory, solution concepts, normal form games and extensive form games with complete and incomplete information. Examples will mainly come from social science disciplines. Exclusion(s): MATH 4321

**SOSC 1420 Poverty**

[3 Credit(s)]

This course is an analysis of poverty, where the focus is on basic poverty measurement (such as Gini coefficient, income percentile, etc), underlying causes of poverty, impact of poverty on society, policy and practice on poverty reduction.

**SOSC 1440 Introduction to Economics**

[3 Credit(s)]
This course provides an overview of both microeconomics and macroeconomics. It demonstrates how tools of economics can be applied for analyzing socioeconomic changes and the effects of government policies. Topics for the applications are China-related and carry global relevance. 

**Exclusion(s):** ECON 2103, ECON 2113, ECON 2123, ECON 2913, ECON 3113, ECON 3133

**SOSC 1460 Japan: Change and Continuity**

This course provides a basic introduction to Japan. It covers all major aspects including geography, history, society, economics, and politics in order to equip students with fundamental knowledge and a framework for thinking about Japan.

**SOSC 1620 Introduction to China's Political and Economic Development**

This course offers an overview of the structure and change of China’s political and economic system from 1949 to the present; it also provides an analytic basis for understanding the on-going social and economic change in China.

**SOSC 1661 Contemporary Hong Kong: Government & Politics**

By unfolding the multi-dimensions of Hong Kong’s political system, political culture, and political dynamics before and after its handover, this course aims to review the factors shaping the governance of Hong Kong. Throughout the course, intensive class interaction will be encouraged and multi-media teaching instruments will be adopted to stimulate learning. 

**Exclusion(s):** SOSC 1662, SOSC 1663

**SOSC 1662 Contemporary Hong Kong: Society**

A sociologically informed examination of Hong Kong society. Topics include social change, political, economic and gender inequalities, the rise of the democracy movement, discrimination, consumer culture, identity, intimacy, and family life.

**Exclusion(s):** SOSC 1661, SOSC 1663

**SOSC 1663 Contemporary Hong Kong: Critical Issues**

The course provides an overview about Hong Kong society and addresses from an interdisciplinary perspective a set of critical issues arising from its socio-economic, cultural and political development. It looks at Hong Kong comparatively and globally, drawing students' attention to its uniqueness and similarities vis-à-vis other global cities, as well as its relation with China and the world.

**Exclusion(s):** SOSC 1662, SOSC 1663

**SOSC 1780 Population and Development in China**

This course will first introduce formal demography and population studies as two major parts of demography and then investigate details about measurements about, major patterns of, and explanations to population size, growth, distribution, composition as well as three demographic processes fertility, mortality and migration.

**SOSC 1800 Understanding Chinese Society**

This course gives an overview of post-1949 Chinese society. The course is structured not as a historical chronology but rather as a thematic discussion of some of the major issues in socialist China. It will explore the basic institutional make-up of Chinese society, the structural changes brought forth in the reform era, and the impacts on the daily existence of the people therein.

**SOSC 1810 Sociology of the Family**

This course examines the family as a social institution and how social, economic, and cultural forces influence its development and change. It pays attention to the different experiences of family members by gender, class, age, and race/ethnicity. Diversity of family forms will be examined.

**SOSC 1840 Government, Law and Society in China**

This course introduces to students basic knowledge about the operation of the Chinese legal system or legal institutions. It examines how laws are used in the social, economic, and political activities of the Chinese people.

**SOSC 1850 Understanding Society**

This course will help students appreciate the power of the sociological imagination in understanding their everyday lives. This is an age in which we tend to explain human behavior in terms of our individual achievements, personalities, and even our genetic make-up. The sociologist, however, looks at human behavior as the product of groups, organizations and culture. In order to master this sociological outlook, the course shall examine a number of topics central to our lives from the
point of view of sociological perspectives and methods. These topics will include: culture, deviance, inequality, religion, education, social change and development, gender, intimate relations and the family, and power and politics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 1860</td>
<td>Population and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 186)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This course introduces the main concepts in the field of population studies, contemporary issues concerning the interrelationships between population and social and economic development, and examples of applications of a knowledge of population to wider social concerns, and shows how they relate to issues of concern in research, planning and policy development. Emphasis will be given to contemporary questions and their origins in recent history.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 1870</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues in East Asia</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 187)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This course introduces to students some of the major contemporary issues regarding state, society politics, and culture of East Asian countries or areas, including China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. The course is organized along some basic themes, such as state-citizen interaction, political culture, democratization, and democratic consolidation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 1960</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 196)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The aim of this course is to introduce the fundamental concepts in psychology. This course is suitable for students who want to acquire basic understanding of psychology, and prerequisite for those who want to study psychology further.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 1980</td>
<td>Psychology and Everyday Life</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 198)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This course introduces major challenges of adjustment individuals face during their transition to adulthood from a psychosocial perspective. Topics include role identities, personality, emotion, stress and coping, interpersonal attraction and communication, and workplace issues. Exclusion(s): SOSC 195 (prior to 2008-09)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 2000</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 200)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Focuses on a coherent collection of topics selected from social science. May be repeated for credit, if the topics studied are different.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 2010</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 301G)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society and the environment are closely linked. In this course, we will explore these linkages at various levels from the local to the global. We will examine two sides of human and environment interaction: the important contributions that sociology can make to the study of natural resources and the environment, and important impacts that environment and natural resources have on social life, and vice versa. We will examine various types of production and consumption, materialism, population and development, and natural resource extraction, critical questions about sustainable use, capitalism, and the relationship between our patterns of recourse use and the quality of life in our communities and the world. Throughout the course, we will consider several dimensions of sustainable living including: the social, the ecological, the cultural, the economic and social and environmental justice. Exclusion(s): ENVR 1040</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 2110</td>
<td>Introduction to Sustainable Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable development integrates improvements in human welfare with improvements in the health of the environment. It is society's attempt to solve the degradation that economic and social development has imposed on the environment. To solve environmental crises such as climate change, pollution, or destruction of biodiversity we need to integrate environmental practices into all our activities, pulling together new technologies, lifestyles, economic theories and business practice, and government policies. This course looks at how this process of integration works at the international, national, and municipal levels and from the organization perspective of different industrial sectors, businesses, and communities. Exclusion(s): ENVR 2110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 2140</td>
<td>Research Methods in the Social Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 3140, SOSC 211)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The course is designed to assist students in developing a basic understanding of qualitative and quantitative data analysis and interpretation in the social sciences. Background knowledge of statistics is not required for taking this course.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOSC 2170</td>
<td>Environment and Business</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 217)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A course designed to introduce students of all disciplines to the compatibility of business profitability and preservation of the environment. Students learn: 1) what environmental sustainability means and how companies develop strategies for a sustainable future; 2) how an effective environmental strategy requires an integrated response among firms, government, and civil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
society, and the various regulatory, collaboration and other means used to achieve integration; and 3) how
the various activities within a firm work together and within society to achieve the sustainability strategy.

SOSC 2180  Science and Technology Policy in China  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 218] This course examines the development of policies to promote
scientific research and technological innovation in China, looking in particular at the impacts of historical
legacies and the reforms of the last two decades.

SOSC 2210  Fundamentals of Social Psychology  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 221] Social psychology is the scientific study of how people's thoughts,
feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others. This course
introduces some fundamental concepts and theories in social psychology. Some topics are attitudes and
behavior; social influence; group dynamics; prejudice and discrimination; aggression, helping, and
interpersonal relationship. This course is suitable for students who want to acquire more understanding
about social psychology. Prerequisite(s): SOSC 195 (prior to 2008-09) or SOSC 1960 or SOSC 1980

SOSC 2220  Women in China  [C][3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 200C] The course explores the gendered experience of Chinese women,
how their situations have changed over time, and the ways in which socio-economic transformations affect
their lives. In particular, the course will examine a range of women's issues and gendered impacts of socio-
economic changes in China in the areas of works, family, culture and body politics.

SOSC 2230  The Chinese Economy  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 3230, SOSC 323] This is a survey course of the Chinese economy dealing
with its economic history; economic geography; transition from semi-planned to a market-oriented economy;
role of political and cultural institutions; and impact of China's economic growth worldwide. Exclusion(s):
ECON 4204, SOSC 4260

SOSC 2250  Place and Space in the Global Context  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 3250, SOSC 225] This course enables students to analyze and demonstrate
how social, economic and political activities are embedded in places and integrated over space. It is an
introduction to human geography, providing a synthetic comprehension of how communities, cities and
countries evolve and operate and their linkages to hinterlands and global systems.

SOSC 2260  The World of Politics  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 101A] This course is designed to provide a general understanding of
political science as a field of study and to review the basic features and problems of political systems,
processes, and international relations.

SOSC 2280  International Relations of East Asia  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 228] This survey course helps students understand interactions among
states in East Asia since WW II. The course presents a multi-tiered conceptual framework to explain current
problems in East Asia the key events that have occurred there since WWII. The first part of the course
presents an historical survey of the major events in the region. The second part applies theories and
approaches from international relations to these events. The third part looks at the key bilateral and
multilateral relationships in East Asia. The fourth part analyzes key issues, including the Korean nuclear
crisis, potential conflict in the South China Sea, relations between Taiwan and the PRC government,
problems related to energy, the environment, migration, and the impact of China’s growth on the region. A
simulation game will allow students to engage in a crisis management situation, bring real-time experiences
to academic knowledge and demonstrate how theory can be applied understanding foreign policy decision
making.

SOSC 2290  Understanding Globalization  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 229] This course aims to help students learn theories and debates about
globalization. The focus will be on economic, political, cultural, and social aspects of globalization. Students
will discuss the process and impact of globalization in its various aspects.

SOSC 2630  Development in Rural China  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 1630, SOSC 163] This course surveys the development and transformation
of China’s village economy from around the early twentieth century to the present. Emphasis is placed on
the effects of rural institutions and policies on economic performance. Prerequisite(s): One of ECON 2103,
ECON 2113, ECON 2913, ECON 3113, ECON 3133 or SOSC 1440

SOSC 2640  The Chinese Cultural Revolution: A Case Study in  [C][3 Credit(s)]
Politico-Social Movements

This course guides students to explore the causes, processes, and long impact of the Chinese Cultural Revolution (CR) of 1966-76. As one of the most critical periods in China's 20th century, such a massive sociopolitical upheaval and violence not only caused many deaths, dismantled the bureaucracy and crushed the economy, but also inspired radical politico-social movements in Hong Kong, Western Europe, Japan, North America and etc. Firsthand sources and accounts on the CR will be examined together with scholarly studies concerning the CR and the 20th century radicalism worldwide.

SOSC 2740 Gender and Society
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 274] This course studies how pervasive gender is in organizing our social life. We shall examine how gender organizes everything from our sense of personal identity to our daily face-to-face interactions, and how gender is embedded in institutions such as the family, labor market, media, and the state. The aim is to introduce students to a sociological perspective of thinking about gender.

SOSC 2780 Modernization and Social Change
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 278] This course is designed to acquaint students with the major concepts and theoretical perspectives of modernization and social change. Development experiences from both developing and developed countries will be used as examples to illustrate the merits and shortcomings of different theoretical perspectives in the field of modernization and social change.

SOSC 2800 Global Politics
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 280, SOSC 103H] This course aims at introducing students to the key changes in current global politics in order to help them make sense of major trends that are shaping our world. This course is structured to expose students to a cross-section of the issues and topics of foreign affairs, such as the basic facts of conflicts, diplomacy, international trade and investment, terrorism, globalization and development, as well as the world environment and global governance. Taking an historical approach and using three theoretical perspectives - realism, liberal, and identity, each providing different causal mechanisms for historical events and phenomena -students will learn how international politics and the world economy have evolved into their current forms. By the end of the semester students should be able to make judgment calls to assess the strength and validity of different arguments. Exclusion(s): SOSC 1250

SOSC 2970 Abnormal Psychology
Abnormal psychology is the scientific study of psychopathology and abnormal behavior. This course introduces theories, research methods, and the most updated research findings in the field of abnormal psychology. Students will be introduced to various types of psychological disorders, such as mood disorders, schizophrenia, personality disorders, somatoform disorders, sex-related disorders, etc. They will also learn about the diagnosis, causes, maintenance, and treatment of major psychological disorders from an integrative perspective. Prerequisite(s): SOSC 1960 OR SOSC 1980

SOSC 2980 Personality Psychology
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 298] This course surveys the principal approaches to personality and examines relevant modern research. Exclusion(s): SOSC 195 (prior to Spring 2008-09) Prerequisite(s): SOSC 1960 or SOSC 1980

SOSC 2990 Psychology of Adolescence and Adulthood
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 200] Developmental psychology is the scientific study of human development over the course of the life span. This course introduces theories, research methods, and research findings on developmental processes from adolescence into old age, primarily focusing on areas including physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development. Some topics are love and partnership, peer relationship, family and parenting, death and grieving, and common psychological disorders among adolescents and adults. Throughout the course, students will be inspired, challenged, and excited to learn more deeply into the psychology of adolescence and adulthood. Prerequisite(s): SOSC 195 (prior to 2008-09) or SOSC 1960 or SOSC 1980

SOSC 3000 Special Topics
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 300] Focuses on a coherent collection of topics selected from social science. May be repeated for credit, if the topics studied are different.

SOSC 3010 Special Topics
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 301] Focuses on a coherent collection of topics selected from social science. May be repeated for credit, if the topics studied are different.
SOSC 3110  Science and Technology in Hong Kong  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 311] Exploration of Hong Kong’s technology policy with special focus on government and quasi-government initiatives in research, education, and technology promotion.

SOSC 3120  Economic Development  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 200N] This course examines the economic situations of low and middle-income economies, considering many important topics in the field of development economics. It addresses questions such as what factors help explain why some countries are rich and others poor and whether economic policies can affect these factors. We will study key aspects of life for poor households in the developing world, such as inequality, gender and the intra-household division of resources, education, child labor, health, savings and credit, institutions and globalization. Students will also study recent research in the field and examine empirical evidence on these topics. Prior knowledge in introductory economics and basic statistics is beneficial. Exclusion(s): ECON 4434

SOSC 3130  Hong Kong Culture  [CA] [C] [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 313] Explores the formation of Hong Kong identity, changes in communal experiences, the symbolic meanings of urban space, representations of gender in popular discourse, the question of political apathy, and various forms of cultural politics.

SOSC 3150  Science, Technology and Environment  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 215] This course aims to provide students with the theoretical and conceptual tools needed to understand the way in which scientific and technological development relates to the environment. The course will encourage students to analyze technology from different perspectives, to ask informed questions about the driving forces of science and technology, and to understand how scientific research and technological innovation can contribute to addressing global and local environmental problems.

SOSC 3160  Gender, Development and Fertility  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 316] This course provides an advanced introduction to the central concepts and debates in the social study of human fertility. The course will focus on competing theoretical and methodological approaches to fertility, the causes and consequences of fertility change, drawing on work in demography, sociology, anthropology, micro-economics and biology.

SOSC 3170  Ethnicity  [C] [3 Credit(s)]
The persistent centrality of ethnicity in politics and social relations globally has confounded the expectations of “modernists”, who predicted that capitalism, socialism or some other system would put an end of ethnocentric identity. By some reckonings as well, the second half of the 20th Century and early 21st Century have proved to be an era of increasingly numerous and bloody ethnic conflicts. “Ethnic revival” is a feature of everyday life in societies spanning many cultures and levels of economic development. Academic interest in ethnicity has grown greatly. In this course, students will read and discuss theoretical contributions to the international discourse of ethnicity, drawn from the work of social scientists as well as works about the selected "case study" of ethnicity in China (including Hong Kong). Students will have the opportunity to make their own analytical contribution by presenting a paper on a topics of their choice related to ethnicity.

SOSC 3190  Population Aging, Mortality and Health  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 319] This course will examine demographic aspects of population aging, patterns of mortality and health in human populations, as well as methods for analyzing and understanding those patterns. The primary focus will be on demographic causes of population aging, rooted in declining fertility and mortality, with particular emphasis on issues surrounding mortality, such as patterns of adult and old age mortality and health, the question of limits to length of life, the reliability of mortality data for older ages, problems in forecasting mortality at older ages, and on biological processes of aging.

SOSC 3240  Application of Geographical Information Systems  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 324] This course provides students with comprehensive knowledge of Geographical Information Systems including basic concepts, software and functions, data and application to social science and other fields.

SOSC 3330  Modern Dictatorship: West and East  [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 330] This course takes a critical and comparative review of the most significant dictatorships in the 20th century, the Third Reich under Hitler, the Soviet Russian system under Stalin, and the Chinese Party-state under Mao. All the three systems stem from ideologically powerful mass revolutionary movements and produced distinctive political, social and economic results. Many of their legacies are still felt even today and, therefore, studying them from a distance will lead to valuable lessons.

SOSC 3410  East Asian Economic Development  [3 Credit(s)]
This course examines East Asia's economic development using theoretical concepts of development economics that range from classical to developmentalist and neoclassical theories. It also covers a number of concepts and events specific to East Asian economies, including the East Asian "development miracle", the role of government in East Asia's economic development, demographic change, cultural idiosyncrasies, regional production networks, and differences in the development strategies and development paths of East Asian countries.

**SOSC 3520   Understanding Comparative Politics**

This introductory course compares the political systems of democratic, socialist and authoritarian regimes, by looking at Canada/U.S., China/Former Soviet Union, and Egypt. Course teaches the comparative method and policy analysis. Key issues include state formation, political leadership, political culture, political participation, political conflict, political institutions, and political processes and policy making.

**SOSC 3620   Critical Urban Studies**

This introductory course on urban studies showcases how urban scholars analyze and interpret the changing of global city and regions. Instead of simply describing the various functions of the city-regions, we will take a more critical perspective in analyzing the major problems in city-regions. After taking this course, students should be able to re-discover the hidden and marginalized voices in our fast-growing city-regions today. Specific attention will be given to the city-regions in Hong Kong, China and Taiwan.

**SOSC 3630   Democracy and Democratization around the World**

Based on single-country and cross-national research, this course includes some issues concerning democracy and democratization around the world. It will start with helping students understand the debates on the definitions of democracy and explore their implications. The course will then examine empirically the consequences of democracy and thereby debate on the alleged strengths and weaknesses of democracy. The course will also introduce the global expansion of democracies since the late twentieth century. It will analyze the causes of global democratization from various perspectives. Lastly, it will examine the factors shaping democratic stability from various approaches.

**SOSC 3880   Social Inequality and Social Mobility**

Social stratification concerns the unequal distribution of resources/rewards/opportunities which are scarce but widely desired, and the process of status attainment or social mobility whereby some persons or groups come to receive more of these scarce things than are received by others. This course will introduce the basic concepts and theories in analyzing social and economic inequalities in the contemporary world.

**SOSC 4260   China's Economic Transformation**

This course explores the origins, processes, and consequences of economic change in China since 1978. It focuses on China's transformation from a closed and state-controlled economy to a market-oriented, increasingly internationalized, and predominantly private economy. It begins with an overview of the Maoist economic system since the communist revolution in 1949. It then examines how the rules governing economic activities have been redefined in major economic sectors since 1978. It also highlights the main features of the new, capitalistic economy and reflects on the issues and challenges that have emerged during the transformation of the economy. 

**SOSC 4270   Social Change in Contemporary China**

This course surveys the post-1949 Chinese society, focusing on social changes since 1978. It explores the basic institutional make-up of Chinese society, the structural changes brought forth in the reform era, and how these institutions configure the social life in contemporary China. 

**SOSC 4280   China in the Global Political Economy**

This course examines China's political economic development from a global political economy perspective. It introduces major theories in the field of global political economy; analyzes causes, trends, and consequences of China's political and economic development since 1978.

**SOSC 4290   China's Sustainable Development**

China's path to economic development has inflicted enormous damage on its environment and the health and wellbeing of its people. At the same time, however, China has demonstrated the creative capacity to not only to transform its environmental performance, but also take a leading role in global sustainable development. This course investigates the major environmental
issues that must be dealt with if China’s and the World’s social and economic development are to continue. The causes and consequences of global warming, air pollution, water pollution and scarcity, desertification, biodiversity loss, and others are investigated. Technologies and policies of mitigation, stakeholders involved are identified, and options for participation and governance strategies at community, regional, national and international levels are explored. Prerequisite(s): HUMA 2590 or SOSC 1350 or SOSC 2290

SOSC 4600 Understanding Chinese Politics [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC360] After an historical and organizational introduction to Chinese politics, this course uses concepts such as political participation, bureaucratic politics, state-society relations, and political economy, to explain the development of the People’s Republic of China. Prerequisite(s): SOSC 1350 or SOSC 2260

SOSC 4610 Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences [3 Credit(s)]
[Previous Course Code(s): SOSC 361] Introduction to quantitative methods used across social science disciplines. The course covers basic statistical inference, the linear regression model, and regression analysis in practice, with a focus on the use of quantitative methods to address social science theories. Students who do not have the pre-requisites may enroll in the course with approval by the instructor. Exclusion(s): ECON 3334, MATH 3424, MATH 4424, SSMA 5020 Prerequisite(s): ISOM 2500 or MATH 2411 or SOSC 1100 Background: basic knowledge of statistics