

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Media and Communication
with effect from Semester A 2024/25**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Directed Studies

Course Code: COM5602

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course is an independent study organized in a variety of ways including individually-based professional or research project, group project, study tour, etc. It provides students with an opportunity to develop interest and expertise with new ideas and perspectives, under the supervision of the faculty, in a specific area in new media communication. It also enables students to acquire knowledge and skills in the design and implementation strategies needed for completing a professional portfolio through the production of new media product(s) or for creating a research profile with primary data-based research paper(s).

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Detect the current status and future direction of the selected area of new media communication in which the student wishes to develop expertise.	30%	✓		
2.	Analyze the key problems in the selected area, with a focus on the relevant causes and possible consequences of the problems.	30%		✓	✓
3.	Discover effective and feasible solutions to the identified problems, informed by relevant theory, technological and/or institutional innovation.	40%		✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.			Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	
Consultation	Consultation with supervisor to generate new ideas on selected topics of their research interests	✓	✓	✓	1 (for 6 weeks)
Class activities	Individual research, group discussions, study tour, or other necessary and appropriate activities	✓	✓	✓	2 (for 13 weeks)
Group discussions and presentation	Group discussions and presentations	✓	✓	✓	1 (for 7 weeks)
Other activities	The class may also include a study tour component	✓	✓	✓	NA

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.			Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3		
Continuous Assessment: 100%					
Research Paper (in 15-20 pages long, exclusive of references and other supporting materials in the appendices)	✓	✓	✓	100%	
Examination: NA					
				100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Research Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear identification of the key problem under study - Through review of relevant previous work on the problem - Insightful analysis of the causes and consequences of the problem - Practical solutions suggested to the problem 	Strong evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Adequate evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Some evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Little evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Not even reaching marginal levels

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
Research Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear identification of the key problem under study - Through review of relevant previous work on the problem - Insightful analysis of the causes and consequences of the problem - Practical solutions suggested to the problem 	Strong evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Adequate evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Some evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions	Fail to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Independent study, professional project, empirical research, direct observations, study tour, causes and consequences of problems in new media communication, effective and feasible solutions

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

Not Applicable

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

Nil.