

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course offered by Department of Media and Communication with effect from Semester A in 2012-2013

Part I

Course Title: Independent Studies

Course Code: COM8009

Course Duration: 1 semester

No. of Credit Units: 3

Level: R8

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: *(Course Code and Title)* None

Precursors: *(Course Code and Title)* None

Equivalent Courses: *(Course Code and Title)* None

Exclusive Courses: *(Course Code and Title)* None

Part II

1. Course Aims:

To develop an in-depth understanding of a topic, through independent directed reading. To enable students to:

- Understand the range of issues underlying a particular area of communication study
- Critically read and evaluate a selection of existing literature in the field; and
- Identify and develop a specific focus for an in-depth study relevant to individual contexts of specialization

There is no specified syllabus for this course. The student will be required to work with a designated supervisor, who initially will suggest a reading list in the area that the student has selected. The student, through independent study, will add to the reading list to develop a comprehensive annotated bibliography on the selected topic.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Explore and identify important issues in the field of communication and issues for communication research	
2.	Evaluate and analyze these issues and topics in light of theoretical perspectives	
3.	Conduct research on important issues using appropriate and innovative research methods, to discover new knowledge in the relevant domain	

3. Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)

(designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs)

CILO No	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1	Weekly Readings on the selected areas of study	Throughout the class
CILO 2	Conduct research on selected issues using appropriate methods	Throughout the class
CILO 3	Weekly discussions of issues with the instructor	Throughout the class

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities

(designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs)

CILO No	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1	Analysis of selected issues	40%	
CILO 2	Research Project: individual or group research project of selected issues using appropriate methods	50%	
CILO 3	Class discussion and participation	10%	

5. Grading of Student Achievement:

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-....F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

Communication research, communication study, issue studies, topical studies, communication theory, empirical research

Recommended Reading:

To be determined by the instructor.