

**City University of Hong Kong**  
**Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Public and International Affairs**  
**with effect from Semester A 2024-25**

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**Part I Course Overview**

<b>Course Title:</b>	<u>Comparative and International Housing and Urban Policy</u>
<b>Course Code:</b>	<u>PIA5701</u>
<b>Course Duration:</b>	<u>One semester</u>
<b>Credit Units:</b>	<u>3</u>
<b>Level:</b>	<u>P5</u>
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	<u>English</u>
<b>Medium of Assessment:</b>	<u>English</u>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
<b>Precursors:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>Nil</u>
<b>Equivalent Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>POL5701 Comparative and International Housing and Urban Policy</u>
<b>Exclusive Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<u>None</u>

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims to provide students with an opportunity to understand the four different fundamental institutions in welfare capitalism as liberal welfare state, conservative welfare state, social-democratic welfare state and developmental state, and to compare the international urban and housing policy from different countries that are embedded in the four fundamental institutions, such as economic domain (smart cities), social domain (community and citizenship), cultural domain (the vernacular, the heritage, the nostalgia, the spectacle) of urban policy, public housing policy, homeownership, slums and informal settlements etc. At the end of this course students are expected to integrate conceptual and theoretical frameworks with ability to compare and explore major housing and urban policies in both Western industrial economies, East Asian countries, global north and global south in the analysis.

### 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.	Describe and analyse housing and urban systems that are based on four fundamental welfare institutions such as liberal welfare state, conservative welfare state, social-democratic welfare state and developmental state		√		
2.	Analyse key issues in international housing and urban policies, for instance, in the areas of smart cities, community and citizenship, public and private housing, and slums and informal settlement etc.				√
3.	Further compare and explore specific cases (for instance cities) that are embedded in the four fundamental welfare institutions and outline policy and practice of urban and housing development in local and international dimensions;				√
4.	Apply conceptual and theoretical framework with the ability in the analysis of housing and urban policy and practice and its relation with welfare capitalisms.			√	
		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	4			
Readings	Read relevant readings before each lecture and seminar session.	x	x	x	x			3
Lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>acquire knowledge of the concepts, values, and development of housing and urban policy</li> <li>develop your analytical and critical capabilities to discuss issues in housing and urban policy.</li> <li>apply the theoretical knowledge to analyse empirical cases.</li> </ul>	x	x	x	x			2
e-learning platform	On-line availability of lecture materials, questions, response, debate, and discussion on readings, lectures materials, and contemporary issues related to housing and urban policy.	x	x	x	x			0.5
seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>analyse and debate on key issues and concerns in the field of housing and urban policy.</li> <li>apply the theories to analyse issues in the case studies selected.</li> <li>generate new ideas on selected topics in which they will conduct research and analysis.</li> </ul>	x	x	x	x			2
Group work	<p>A combination of group work; problem-based investigation, group discussion and team learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>you will be divided into groups and give a presentation of a topic related to housing and urban policy.</li> <li>to promote problem-based and team learning, apart from a presentation, you will be assigned to prepare a commentary and critic notes</li> </ul>	x	x	x	x			2

	<p>on others' presentation and present on tutorial class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you will comment on each other's performance and appraise your classmates' participation in tutorials, presentation skills, and research analysis.</li> </ul>							
Essay-writing	You have to compose an individual paper of 3000-4000 words, based on the reading lists provided.	x	x	x	x			1.5

#### 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	4			
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
Participation and Attendance	x	x	x	x		15%	
Team project: Seminar presentation and paper (3000-4000 words)	x	x	x	x		50%	
Test	x	x	x	x		35%	
Examination: 0%							
						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 the Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Seminar presentation and class participation	Capacity to organize time, communicate effectively, cooperate with classmates	Excellent knowledge of the four fundamental welfare institutions in analysing and comparing the international urban and housing policy; strong ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; excellent research and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban policy issues.	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of four fundamental welfare institutions to analyse and compare international urban and housing policy; fair ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; good research and communication skills to organise and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; fairly innovative and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues.	Only basic and limited knowledge on the four fundamental welfare institutions and limited ability to apply to compare and analyse the international urban and housing policy; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research and communication skills to organise and generate perspectives and present ideas orally with some limitations; very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues.	Very limited understanding of basic knowledge on housing and urban policy demonstrated; Occasionally irrelevant materials and theories presented with some inappropriate examples; Marginal standard of research, writing and communication skill with a number of limitations; very limited and almost no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing problems and issues	Almost no knowledge of housing and urban policy; Almost no ability to identify key challenges; Inadequate research, writing and communication skills; no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues
2. Group Assignment	Ability to consider in depth one particular aspect of the course and gather information independently from a wide variety of sources	Excellent knowledge of the concepts and theories that influence the operation of the comparison on the cases selected on international urban and housing policy; Strong ability to identify key challenges on topics of smart cities, community and citizenship, public housing, and slums and	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of four fundamental welfare institutions to analyse and compare international urban and housing policy; fair ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; good	Only basic and limited knowledge theories on the operation of urban and housing policy; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research, writing and communication skills with some limitations; Very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing and	Very limited understanding of basic knowledge on housing and urban policy demonstrated; Occasionally irrelevant materials and theories presented with some inappropriate examples; Marginal standard of research, writing and communication skill with a number of limitations; very limited and almost no innovative ideas and critical attitude in	Almost no knowledge of housing and urban policy; Almost no ability to identify key challenges; Inadequate research, writing and communication skills; no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues

		informal settlements etc. to make comparison on different international cities that are embedded in different fundamental welfare institutions; Excellent research, writing and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives present ideas orally and in written papers; Highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing urban and housing issues.	research and communication skills to organise and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; fairly innovative and new ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues.	comparing urban and housing issues	analysing housing problems and issues	
3. Test	Demonstrate familiarity with and understanding of the CILOs and show ability to reflect upon appropriate range of issues regarding comparative and international housing policy	Excellent knowledge of the four fundamental welfare institutions in analysing and comparing the international urban and housing policy; strong ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; excellent research and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban policy issues.	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of variables, concepts and theories that influence the operation of the housing and urban policy; fair ability to identify key challenges; good research, writing and communication skills with some potential to develop critical, and independent analysis; fairly innovative and new ideas and critical attitude in analysing and comparing urban and housing issues	Only basic and limited knowledge on urban and housing policy theories on the operation of housing market; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research, writing and communication skills with some limitations; Very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing issues	Very limited understanding of basic knowledge on housing and urban policy demonstrated; Occasionally irrelevant materials and theories presented with some inappropriate examples; Marginal standard of research, writing and communication skill with a number of limitations; very limited and almost no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing and comparing urban and housing problems and issues	Almost no knowledge of housing and urban policy; Almost no ability to identify key challenges; Inadequate research, writing and communication skills; no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues

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

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Seminar presentation and class participation	Capacity to organize time, communicate effectively, cooperate with classmates	Excellent knowledge of the four fundamental welfare institutions in analysing and comparing the international urban and housing policy; strong ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; excellent research and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban policy issues.	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of four fundamental welfare institutions to analyse and compare international urban and housing policy; fair ability to engage with major challenges facing housing and urban policy and built environment; good research and communication skills to organise and generate new perspectives and present ideas orally; fairly innovative and new ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues.	Only basic and limited knowledge on the four fundamental welfare institutions and limited ability to apply to compare and analyse the international urban and housing policy; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research and communication skills to organise and generate perspectives and present ideas orally with some limitations; very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues.	Almost no knowledge of the four fundamental welfare institutions and no ability to apply for comparing and analysing international housing and urban policy; Almost no ability to identify key challenges; Inadequate research and communication skills; no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing housing and urban issues
2. Group Assignment	Ability to consider in depth one particular aspect of the course and gather information independently from a wide variety of sources	Excellent knowledge of the concepts and theories that influence the operation of the comparison on the cases selected on international urban and housing policy; Strong ability to identify key challenges on topics of smart cities, community and citizenship, public housing,, and slums and informal settlements etc. to make comparison on different international	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of variables, concepts and theories that influence the operation of the housing and urban policy; fair ability to identify key challenges; good research, writing and communication skills with some potential to develop critical, and independent analysis; fairly innovative and new ideas and critical	Only basic and limited knowledge theories on the operation of urban and housing policy; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research, writing and communication skills with some limitations; Very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analyzing and comparing urban and housing issues	Very limited understanding of basic knowledge on housing and urban policy demonstrated; Occasionally irrelevant materials and theories presented with some inappropriate examples; Marginal standard of research, writing and communication skill with a number of limitations; very limited and almost no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing and comparing urban and housing problems and issues

		cities that are embedded in different fundamental welfare institutions; Excellent research, writing and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives present ideas orally and in written papers; Highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analyzing urban and housing issues.	attitude in analyzing and comparing urban and housing issues		
3. Test	Demonstrate familiarity with and understanding of the CILOs and show ability to reflect upon appropriate range of issues regarding comparative and international housing policy	Excellent knowledge of the concepts and theories that influence the operation of the urban and housing policy; Strong ability to identify key challenges; Excellent research, writing and communication skills to organize and generate new perspectives present ideas orally and in written papers; Highly innovative ideas and critical attitude in analyzing and comparing urban and housing issues	Satisfactory performance in applying the knowledge of variables, concepts and theories that influence the operation of the housing and urban policy; fair ability to identify key challenges; good research, writing and communication skills with some potential to develop critical, and independent analysis; fairly innovative and new ideas and critical attitude in analyzing and comparing urban and housing issues	Only basic and limited knowledge theories on the operation of urban and housing policy; Superficial analysis of the basic materials; Generally acceptable standard of research, writing and communication skills with some limitations; Very little innovative ideas and critical attitude in analyzing and comparing urban and housing issues	Very limited understanding of basic knowledge on housing and urban policy demonstrated; Occasionally irrelevant materials and theories presented with some inappropriate examples; Marginal standard of research, writing and communication skill with a number of limitations; very limited and almost no innovative ideas and critical attitude in analysing and comparing urban and housing problems and issues



### 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.)

Comparative housing and urban systems in four fundamental welfare institutions such as liberal welfare state, conservative welfare state, social-democratic welfare state and developmental state; Comparative housing and urban systems in western industrial economies and East Asian economies; comparative urban systems in topics such as smart cities, community and citizenship; public housing policy; homeownership; housing for homeless such as slums and informal settlements.

#### 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.)

1.	Esping-Andersen, G. (1990). The three worlds of welfare capitalism. <i>Polity</i> .
2.	Weiss, Linda. 2000. "Developmental States in Transition: Adapting, Dismantling, Innovating, Not 'Normalizing.'" <i>Pacific Review</i> 13 (1): 21–55.
3.	Wang, June, and Mingye Li. 2019. "Mobilising the Welfare Machine: Questioning the Resurgent Socialist Concern in China's Public Rental Housing Scheme." <i>International Journal of Social Welfare</i> 28 (3): 318–32.
4.	Castells, Manuel, Lee Goh, and R. Yin-Wang Kwok. 1990. <i>The Shek Kip Mei Syndrome: Economic Development and Public Housing in Hong Kong and Singapore</i> . London: Pion.
5.	Alan Smart. 2006. <i>The Shek Kip Mei Myth: Squatters, Fires and Colonial Rule in Hong Kong, 1950-1963</i> . Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
6.	Castells, M., Goh, L., Kwok, R. Y., & Kee, T. L. (1988). <i>Economic development and housing policy in the Asian Pacific Rim: A comparative study of Hong Kong, Singapore, and Shenzhen special economic zone</i> .

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

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

1.	Clapham, D, Kemp, P & Smith, S J (1990) <i>Housing and Social Policy</i> (London: MacMillan).
2.	Doling, J (1997) <i>Comparative Housing Policy</i> (London: Macmillan).
3.	Sassen, S. (2011). <i>Cities in a world economy</i> . Sage Publications.
4.	Short, J. R. (2014). <i>Urban theory: A critical assessment</i> . Palgrave Macmillan
5.	Agus, Razali; Doling, John & Lee, Dong-Sung (Eds.) (2002) <i>Housing Policy Systems in South and East Asia</i> . New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
6.	Forrest, R. & Lee, J. (2003) (eds) <i>Housing and Social Change: East West Perspectives</i> . Routledge: London.
7.	Wong, R (1998) <i>On Privatizing Public Housing</i> (Hong Kong: CityU Press).
8.	Brenner, N., Marcuse, P., & Mayer, M. (2012). <i>Cities for people, not for profit: critical urban theory and the right to the city</i> (edition). Routledge.
9.	Bridge, G. and Watson, S. (2010) <i>The Blackwell city reader</i> (edition) West Sussex, U.K; Malden, M: Wiley-Blackwell