PIA2530: EXPLORING PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN GLOBALISED CITIES

Effective Term
Semester B 2022/23

Part I Course Overview

Course Title
Exploring Public Affairs in Globalised Cities

Subject Code
PIA - Public and International Affairs
Course Number
2530

Academic Unit
Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration
One Semester

Credit Units
3

Level
B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction
English

Medium of Assessment
English

Prerequisites
Nil

Precursors
Nil

Equivalent Courses
POL2530 Exploring Public Affairs in Globalised Cities

Exclusive Courses
Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course introduces students to the inter-disciplinary field of public affairs. The course explores why and how public policies form and develop as well as change, how public policy function, and related to everyday life in the city, the key problems confronting cities and how public policy address such challenges. A main focus of this course is the apparent paradox of public policy in the city – cities are the centres of vibrant lives, creativity, wealth accumulation, incubators of new cultures, origins of political reforms etc, yet at the same time, many cities also exhibit high concentrations of crime, poverty and inequality. There is the utopian and dystopian city, the cohesive and conflictual city. The course will consider how such contradictions are examined and explained by different theoretical approaches with theories being drawn from political science, public management, urban studies, economics, sociology, geography, anthropology etc. Examples from Hong Kong, China and other Asian countries as well as from Europe and the United States will be drawn upon as illustrations.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explain how public policy develop and function			x	
2	Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy			x	
3	Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes of public policy in cities			x	
4	Generate new perspectives in looking at public policies in globalised cities		x		x

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.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

	TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Equip students with the basic concepts and methodologies in studying public affairs	1, 2	
2	Presentation	Students will make presentation on their public affairs research team projects which they need to do both desktop research and data collection in the field	1, 2, 3	

| 3 | Discussion | Students will be assigned at least 2 papers for discussion in each lecture | 3, 4 | |
| 4 | Term paper | Individual papers on a specific public affairs issue / topic | 1, 2, 3, 4 | |

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	1. Discussion and participation	2, 3, 4	10	
2	2. Presentation of team project	2, 3, 4	5	
3	3. Team project report	1, 2, 3, 4	40	
4	4. Individual Term paper	1, 2, 3, 4	20	
5	5. Test	1, 2, 3	25	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

End of term test

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstrate excellent ability in
- Explaining how public policy develop and function
- Identifying approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems in relation to public policy

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstrate good ability in
- Explaining how public policy develop and function
- Identifying approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems in relation to public policy

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstrate adequate ability in
- Explaining how public policy develop and function
- Identifying approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems in relation to public policy

Marginal (D)

Marginally demonstrate ability in
- Explaining how public policy develop and function
- Identifying approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems in relation to public policy

Failure (F)

Demonstrate no ability in
- Explaining how public policy develop and function
- Identifying approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems in relation to public policy

Assessment Task

Presentation, discussion, participation, individual term paper and team project report

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstrate excellent ability in
- Explain how public policy develop and function
- Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy
- Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes of public policy
- Generate new perspectives in looking at public policy issues and problems

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstrate good ability in
- Explain how public policy develop and function of public policy
- Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy
- Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes of public policy
- Generate new perspectives in looking at public policy issues and problems

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstrate adequate ability in
- Explain how public policy develop and function of public policy- Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy
- Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes in relation to public policy of cities
- Generate new perspectives in looking at public policy issues and problems

Marginal (D)

Marginally demonstrate ability in
- Explain how public policy develop and function
- Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy
- Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes of public policy
- Generate new perspectives in looking in public policy issues and problems

Failure (F)

Demonstrate no ability in
- Explain how public policy develop and function
- Identify approaches and theories in explaining processes and problems of public policy
- Discover the contradictions in the functions and processes of public policy
- Generate new perspectives in looking in public policy issues and problems

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

The emergence and development of public policy, classic and new approaches in analysing public policy, social and economic development, power politics, globalisation and the city, inequality and residential segregation, culture and creativity and innovative, public policy and social institution, public policy problems and solutions (education, welfare, economic, housing, climate change and sustainability, etc), city futures.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

	Title
1	Knoepfel, Peter; Larrue, Corinne, Varone, Frederic, Hill, Michael (2007) Public policy analysis 1st Edition, Bristol : Policy Press,

2	Mercer, Trish; Ayres, Russell; Head, Brian; Wanna, John (2021) Learning Policy, Doing Policy: Interactions Between Public Policy Theory, Practice and Teaching, Canberra: ANU Press
3	Rich, Andrew (2004) Think Tanks, Public Policy, and the Politics of Expertise,Cambridge: Cambridge University Pres
4	Howlett, Michael (2011) Designing Public Policies: Principles and Instruments, London: Routledge
5	Simon , Christopher A..(2010) Public policy : preferences and outcomes, 2nd ed. New York : Longman.

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Nil