

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **COURSE TITLE**

Politics of the Ordinary

2. **COURSE CODE**

HUMN3057

3. **No. OF UNITS**

3 Units

4. **OFFERING DEPARTMENT**

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. **PREREQUISITES**

N.A.

COREQUISITES

N.A.

6. **MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION**

English

7. **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

- To introduce students to the theoretical study of the ordinary and the everyday
- To provide insight into how ordinary everyday practices are shaped by broader social and cultural forces
- To engage students in critical reflection of their environment
- To train students in the synthesis and presentation of ideas in a coherent manner

8. **COURSE CONTENT**

This course introduces students to key concepts and ideas of ordinary

everyday life as a critical area of studies. The course examines the ordinary practices of everyday living as sites where meaning and power, ideology and subjectivity, governance and resistance are played out and offers a critical reading through theories drawn from the Humanities and Cultural Studies.

Course Outline

Week Indicative Content

1 Introduction to Everyday Life Studies

Defining sites and methods of studying everyday life

2-4 Ordinary Clothing

Key Concepts: Consumption, Body, Discipline, Power Foucault, Mulvey, Lury,

5-7 Ordinary Eating

Key Concepts: Capital, Class, Habitus Foucault, Marx, Bourdieu,

8-10 Ordinary Living

Key Concepts: Home, Place-making, Dwelling, Space Lefebvre, de Certeau, Benjamin

11-12 Ordinary Travelling

Key Concepts: Migration, Borders, Communities Balibar, Back

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9. **COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)**

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Explain key issues and critical concepts of the study of ordinary everyday life.
CILO 2	Analyze empirical examples of the ordinary so as to provide a critical account of different theoretical perspectives covered in the course.
CILO 3	Present ideas, concepts and theory in oral and written formats.

10. **TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)**

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	The weekly lectures will deliver key issues, outlines of main debates and concerns, and relevant case studies
1-3	Tutorial groups allow students to discuss topics in the local contexts through various formats, e.g. debate, mini-workshop, film analysis, etc., to review the lecture and class readings, to raise questions, as well as to practice through examples
2-3	Students are required to actively participate in class discussion
1	There will be one field trip organized during the semester

11. **ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)**

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Group Presentation	15%	1-3	Students are required to select a topic, collect reference materials and make a group presentation and lead the discussion; other students have to take part in the discussion. Students' ability of CILOs 1 - 3 will be demonstrated.
Group Project and Paper	40%	1-3	The Group Project and Paper are to test the students' learning in relation to CILOs 1-3. Students' ability to present their ideas and arguments

			logically is tested.
Exam	30%	1-3	The Exam is an exercise to test students' ability to demonstrate their achievement in learning CILOs 1-3. Students' ability to present arguments critically and fluently in written form can be tested.
Participation	15%	3	Students' understanding of CILO 3 and their participation and ability to present their ideas and arguments verbally will be tested.

END