THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
HKU SPACE Community College

Associate Degree Programmes 2020-21
Course Document

Course Title: Renewal and Regeneration: China Facing the World

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<th>Course Code:</th>
<th>C C A H 4 0 1 5</th>
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<tr>
<td>QF Level:</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Hours:</td>
<td>39 Hours</td>
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Aims and Objective

The course will examine how China has faced and responded to the global challenges and opportunities. Students will scrutinise and evaluate the measures and policies which China adopts to maintain its survival, and will familiarise themselves with key ideas and concepts such as reforms, revolution, political and economic modernisations, as well as the theory and practices of the Chinese leaders (such as Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping) in domestic and foreign affairs. Methodologies from various disciplines – history, political and social sciences, art and literature will also be introduced. By the end of the course, students will be able to evaluate not only the interaction between the world and China, but also the quest of China for a leading global position at the present.

Intended Learning Outcomes of the Course

On completion of the course, students should be able to

ILO1. examine the importance of various concepts, theory and practice of different policies, that have involved in the past and present development of China;
ILO2. analyse the factors that have had an impact on China, and evaluate the effectiveness of different measures that the Chinese leaders have adopted over time to deal with crisis and search for a great power status;
ILO3. examine China’s search for a great power status and demonstrate an awareness of China’s future;
ILO4. evaluate the impact of China on the global world in the 21st century;
ILO5. employ various disciplinary methodologies to study Chinese politics, society and culture.

Syllabus

1. Reforms to Change
   - Reform: The concept and definitions
   - The challenges and crisis that China has faced in the last one hundred years
   - Responses from individual leaders: the programmes and characteristics of reforms and the effectiveness – case studies
     - The Late Qing Reforms and the extent of change
     - Deng Xiaoping’s ‘Open Door Policy’
     - The reform efforts of the 21st century leadership - Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping
   - The central issue and food for thought: Has there been a continuity (or discontinuity) in the nature and characteristics of these reforms?
2. Modernity, Society and Civilisation
- Modernity: The concept and definitions
- The quest of modernisation of China: the aims and objectives
- Case studies of modernizing efforts
  - The May Fourth Movement
  - The New Life Movement
  - The ‘Four Modernisations’
- The rise of various social groups: women and intellectuals
- The central issue and food for thought: Why has the effort on modernization mainly focused on economic aspect only, and has deliberately refused to promote ‘universal values’ and human rights?

3. Revolution as a new Mandate
- Revolution: Its definitions
- Revolution as a means to achieve goals: case studies
  - Revolution in political aspects: The 1911 Revolution
  - Revolution in socio-economic aspects: The Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution
- Are revolutionary measures outdated at present?
- The central issue and food for thought: Why has the Chinese Communist Party generally said goodbye to revolutions? Does it mean that revolutions, such as the Cultural Revolution, will not happen in the foreseeable future?

4. The Rise and Rise of China in the 21st Century
- The concept of ‘China Dream’
- The ‘One Belt, One Road’ initiative
- Africa: China’s Colony?
- The central issue and food for thought: How successful is the present leadership in projecting the image of a strong China worldwide?

Assessment

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Group Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outside Classroom Learning Activity</td>
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Pre-requisite(s)
Nil

Required and Recommended Reading

There is no standard ‘textbook’ for this course. Required and suggested readings are listed below. Readings will also be distributed to students in class.

Required Readings

References:

**Topic 1: Reforms to Change**
2. Lam, W., China after Deng Xiaoping: The Power Struggle in Beijing since Tiananmen, (Hong Kong: P.A. Professional Consultants, 1995)

**Topic 2: Modernity, Society and Civilisation**

**Topic 3: Revolution as a new Mandate**

**Topic 4: The Rise and Rise of China in the 21st Century**

01.09.2020