

HUMA2623

Cultural Sustainability in South China

Syllabus (Fall Semester 2017)

Since the class will conduct fieldworks in Hong Kong and Guangdong, students may need either visas or entering permits to enter Mainland China, and may need to share part of the traveling and living expenses.

Instructor:

Dr. Wing-ho Wong

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Room: 3341, phone: 23587778, Office Hours: Wed 3:00 to 4:00 and Fri 3:00 to 4:00.

Lectures: Monday, 9:30 – 11:20 (Room 5562)

Tutorials: Monday, 18:00 – 18:50 (CYTG003)

Fieldwork: 14 Oct, and 4-5 Nov, 2017.

Course Credit: 3

Course Description

In the past decades of increasing homogeneity and globalization, local history, traditions and ways of life are among our most endangered resources and precious assets. Cultural sustainability is a new interdisciplinary approach that aims to explore the significance of culture as a major factor in sustainable development. To achieve the goal of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, we are required to recognize indigenous cultural values and standards, as well as equal rights of the respective communities in policy planning and decision-making, and the engagement of the local community and members of the public. By understanding the socio-economic factors and the diversity of local cultures, we will be equipped with the knowledge and awareness needed to develop, renew and maintain local cultures that create positive and enduring relationships with other people and the natural world.

This course aims to examine the basic theories and concepts of cultural sustainability with empirical field studies. It combines lectures and field studies, which will be conducted in Hong Kong, Nansha, and Guangzhou in weekends. Students will explore local people's history, culture, and society using the ethnographic research method. Students will gain firsthand experience of the social and cultural development in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region, through which they will understand and appreciate cultural diversities and rethink their own roles in the rapid changing world.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to get familiar with the historical background as well as contemporary political, social, economic, and cultural knowledge of South China. Students are required to learn the basic concepts in cultural sustainability and discuss the various approaches to major current issues of cultural sustainability in South China.

Students are required to conduct field research projects, in which they have to draw maps, observe human activities, conduct interviews, examine local archives, inscriptions, folk documents and local gazetteers, and interview local residents, migrant workers and government officials.

Students are required to conduct field studies in Hong Kong, Nansha, and Guangzhou in weekends. Students may need either visas or entering permits to enter Mainland China, and may need to share part of the traveling and living expenses.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand basic terms, concepts, and theories of cultural sustainability through the study of culture and society of South China.
2. Develop an appreciation of cultural diversity and understand the possibilities and limits of sustaining local cultures.
3. To identify and understand contemporary situation and problems of cultural sustainability in South China.
4. Develop research skills for conducting fieldwork and collecting field data on human culture and society.
5. Develop written and oral presentations skills.

Course Outline

Weeks	Dates	Lectures, Tutorials, and Fieldworks	Venues
1	Sept 4 (Mon)	Topic 1: Introduction	Room 5562
2	Sept 11 (Mon)	Topic 2: Culture, Environment, and Society	Room 5562
3	Sept 18 (Mon)	Topic 3: Globalization and Cultural Heritage	Room 5562
4	Sept 25 (Mon)	Topic 4: Popular Religion and the Making of Local Identity	Room 5562
		Tutorial 1 18:00- 18:50	CYTG003

5	Oct 2	Public Holiday	
6	Oct 9 (Mon)	Topic 5: Heritage, Tourism, and Economy I	Room 5562
	Oct 14 (Sat)	Guided Fieldwork 1: Tai O (大澳) 9:00-15:00	Tai O, HK
7	Oct 16 (Mon)	Topic 6: Heritage, Tourism, and Economy II	Room 5562
		Tutorial 2 18:00 – 18:50	CYTG003
8	Oct 23 (Mon)	Topic 7: Case-study Method Mid-term Quiz	Room 5562
9	Oct 30 (Mon)	Topic 8: Urbanization and Heritage Preservation I	Room 5562
	Nov 4-5 (Sat-Sun)*	Guided Fieldwork 2: Nansha (南沙) and Guangzhou (廣州)	Nov 4 night stay at Nansha
10	Nov 6 (Mon)	Topic 9: Urbanization and Heritage Preservation II	Room 5562
11	Nov 13 (Mon)	Topic 10: Comparing Cultural Heritage between Hong Kong and South China	Room 5562
		Tutorial 3 18:00 – 18:50	CYTG003
12	Nov 20 (Mon)	Topic 11: Cultural Sustainability: Possibilities and Limits	Room 5562
13	Nov 27 (Mon)	Group Presentations and Discussions	Room 5562

Grading

Individual written assignment (35%)

Group project (25%)

Group presentation (5%)

Class participation (10%)

Mid-term Quiz (25%)

No final examination

Students are required to submit 2 assignments (3-5 pages, double space, Times New Roman 12). 3-4 students form a study group and conduct a field study about cultural

sustainability in South China. Each study group is responsible for a 20 minutes presentation and leading a discussion in class and submits their group reports at the end of the course. Papers obtained on the Internet and references to non-scholarly sources from the Internet and papers written for another class are not acceptable. Plagiarism will result in failing the class. Your lecturer may select to use a plagiarism detection service in this course, in which case you will be required to submit your paper to such a service as part of your assignment.

How to get a good grade in this course?

- Read the syllabus carefully.
- Attend class meetings and participate in class activities.
- Do the readings before you come to class.
- Submit all assignments by due dates. (Five points will be deducted each day for late submission)
- Get a good grade on the mid-term quiz.
- Plan your group field study in advance.
- Give a good presentation.
- Submit a good group field study report.

Required Readings

- Arizpe, Lourdes. 2015, *Culture, Diversity and Heritage: Major Studies*. Cham, CH: Springer International Publishing.
- Chhabra, Deepak. 2010. *Sustainable Marketing of Cultural and Heritage Tourism*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Clammer, John. 2016. *Cultures of Transition and Sustainability: Culture after Capitalism*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, Chew, Matthew. 2009. "Cultural Sustainability and Heritage Tourism: Problem in Developing Bun Festival Tourism in Hong Kong," *Journal of Sustainable Development*, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 34-42.
- De Beukelaer, Pyykkönen, Miikka Christiaan, and J. P. Singh, eds. 2015. *Globalization, Culture and Development: The UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Du Cros, Hilary and Yok-shiu F. Lee, eds. 2007. *Cultural Heritage Management in China: Preserving the Cities of the Pearl River Delta*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Elliott, Jennifer. 2006. *An Introduction to Sustainable Development*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Faure, David. 2007. *Emperor and Ancestor: State and Lineage in South China*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Hawkes, Jon, 2001. *The Fourth Pillar of Sustainability: Culture's Essential Role in Public Planning*. Melbourne: Cultural Development Network, Common Ground.
- Messmer, Matthias & Hsin-Mei Chuang. 2013. *China's Vanishing Worlds: Countryside*,

- Traditions, and Cultural Spaces*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press.
- Shapiro, Judith. 2004. *Mao's War against Nature: Politics and the Environment in Revolutionary China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Siu, Helen. 1990. "Recycling Tradition: Culture, History, and Political Economy in the Chrysanthemum Festivals of South China," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, .vol. 32, no. 4, pp. 765-794.
- UNESCO, 1995. *The Cultural Dimension of Development: Towards a Practical Approach*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing.
- UNESCO: Cultural Sector (Oct, 2012). "Culture and Development."
(<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/culture-and-development/>)
- Watson, James L. and Rubie S. Watson. 2004, *Village life in Hong Kong: Politics, Gender, and Ritual in the New Territories*. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press.
- Wolf, Arthur P. 1974. "Gods, Ghost, and Ancestors." In Arthur P. Wolf, ed., *Religion and Ritual in Chinese Society*, pp. 131-182. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- 黃永豪，2005，《土地開發與地方社會：晚清珠江三角洲沙田研究》。香港：文化創造出版社。
- 廖迪生，2000，《香港天后崇拜》。香港：三聯書店。
- 廖迪生、張兆和，2006，《大澳》。香港：三聯書店。
- 廖迪生主編，2011，《非物質文化遺產與東亞地方社會》。香港：香港科技大學華南研究中心，香港文化博物館。
- 廣州市南沙區東涌鎮人民政府、香港科技大學華南研究中心編著，2013，《從滄海沙田到風情水鄉：珠江三角洲東涌社會生態變遷研究》。北京：中國戲劇出版社。