<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Code</th>
<th>MM554</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject Title</td>
<td>Political and Economic Environment for Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Value</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal Duration</td>
<td>1-semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisite/Co-requisite/Exclusion</td>
<td>None</td>
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**Role and Purposes**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of the dynamic political and economic environment within which both private and public sector management takes place. The course will help develop participants’ abilities to appreciate, analyze the impact of changing political and economic orders on organization management. Taking a systemic approach, the course focuses on the local and national context of management. The systems approach to political and economic environment will first be examined. This will followed by a close look at the changing political and economic environment of Hong Kong and China.

**Subject Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:

a. get an in-depth understanding of the political and economic environment in Hong Kong;
b. appreciate the nature and theoretical significant of individual political and economic forces in shaping public and business management;
c. acquire problem solving skills based on current theories in a case study approach;
d. develop the ability to think analytically, critically and independently in managing individual political and economic forces which affect organization management in a systematic, effective, and creative manner;
e. analyze the economic perspective of public issues in Hong Kong, such as minimum wage rate, price control, outsourcing and the consequence of government interventions.

**Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus**

1. A systems approach to political environment
2. Hong Kong political system in consolidation
3. The Executive-led government: from Tung Chee-Hwa to Donald Tsang
4. The ascendancy of the Legislative Council
5. The development of party politics in Hong Kong
6. The proliferation of interest groups in Hong Kong
7. Changing popular political culture: from political apathy to political awakening.
8. HKSAR – Central relations
9. National income accounting
10. Operation of a free market
11. Economic system and laissez-faire in Hong Kong
12. Industrialisation and development strategy
13. HK as an international financial centre
14. Competition policy
15. Monetary system
16. Labour market
On the basis of the theoretical knowledge on political and economic environment students acquired through lectures, they are required to present their views on conducting effective management in changing political and economic order in both business and public sectors. Current political and economic issues will be used extensively in order to cultivate students' management awareness in respect to political and economic factors. Seminars and seminar papers will give students the opportunities to develop their own analytical ability and hence a proficient application of theories to appreciate the manner that politics and economics will affect organization management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Specific assessment methods/tasks</th>
<th>% weighting</th>
<th>Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Assessment*</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Group presentation and outline</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Class participation and attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Individual assignment</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</table>

*Weighting of assessment methods/tasks in continuous assessment may be different, subject to each subject lecturer.

To pass this subject, students are required to obtain Grade D or above in both the Continuous Assessment and Examination components.

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

1. Classroom performance including attendance and participation, would be able to assess students’ understanding of the course’s content.
2. Group presentation enables the students to work as a team to do a more in-depth study of a selected topic on public sector management in Hong Kong to assess their knowledge as well as their research, presentation and written skills.
3. The short essay of 1500 words in the form of case analysis will be used to assess individual students’ critical thinking, analytical ability and written skill.
4. The 3-hour examination is a good tool to test students’ capability to formulate coherent and insightful answers on some questions in those topics they are well prepared.

Feedback in written form will be given to students two days after presentation and all students are invited to join the discussion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Study Effort Expected</th>
<th>Class contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other student study effort:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation for lectures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Reading List and References

**Books**
- Loh, C. *At the Epicentre: Hong Kong and the SARS Outbreak*, Hong Kong, Hong Kong University Press, 2004.

**Articles**


**Journals**
Asian Survey
Asian Journal of Public Administration
China Information
China Journal
The China Quarterly
Columbia Journal of Asian Law
Foreign Affairs
International Review of Administrative Science
Issues & Studies
Journal of Contemporary China
Pacific Affairs
Pacific Review
Public Administration and Policy
Public Administration Review