

Course Title:

Modern Hong Kong

Instructor:

Dr. Carol Tsang, Department of History, School of Humanities

Course Description:

This course explores the history of Hong Kong since the early 1800s from four angles: Chinese history, British imperial history, world history, and as a place with its own identity. We discuss a wide range of historical and popular cultural material, including texts, films and adverts in order to rethink Hong Kong's changing position from the past to the present.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Examine the history of Hong Kong from the precolonial period to the present.
2. Explore the ways in which scholars have approached the history of Hong Kong.

Course Structure:

Day 1, Lecture 1: Introductions

Day 2, Lecture 2: The Opium Wars and Early Colonial Society

Day 3, Lecture 3: The Plague and the Acquisition of the New Territories

Day 4, Lecture 4: Film and discussion: "Bodyguards and Assassins" (十月圍城)

Day 5, Lecture 5: Chinese Nationalism in a British Colony

Day 6, Lecture 6: Economy and Society between the Wars

Day 7, Lecture 7: WWII and the Japanese Occupation

Day 8, Lecture 8: The Cold War, Hong Kong Identity and the Fight Against Corruption

Day 9, Lecture 9: Film and discussion: "Chicken and Duck Talk" (雞同鴨講)

Day 10, Lecture 10: Towards and Beyond 1997, Conclusions

Assessment:

Class participation – 30%

Take-home assignments – 20%

In-class tests – 50%

Study Load:

Lecture hours: 3 x 10 = 30

Self-study hours: 30