1. **Title of the module**

SOCI7090 (SO709) Modern Chinese Societies

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn term (term 1)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Optional module for SSPSSR bachelor degrees including

BA Sociology and Sociology joint honours bachelor degrees

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Understand the key actors, social structures and evolving state-society relations in modern China.

8.2 Have insight into the domestic and global context which shaped contemporary China’s general social mindsets.

8.3 Comprehend key Chinese sociological concepts and be able to apply different sociological theories in analysing pop cultures, news items, research evidence and official data.

8.4 Critically evaluate the assumptions of major sociological theories in relation to contemporary social processes.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Have developed enhanced communication skills through essays and seminars.

9.2 Have developed the ability to search and critically evaluate research data, including web-based materials.

9.3 Possess skills in synthesising case, theories and arguments in a coherent manner.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will provide students with a well-rounded assessment of modern China, with particular emphasis on events since the 1978 Open Door Policy initiated by Deng Xiaoping. The module first introduces students with key sociological concepts related to Chinese traditional society, then move onto major events that form state-society relations in the past three decades. The bulk of the module will explore a range of contemporary issues, which include:

• One country, two systems and four worlds: Diversity and social gaps in modern China

• The broken ‘iron rice bowl’: Social mobility and the welfare system since 1980s

• The Me Generation: The rise and individualization of China’s new middle class

• New social media and the ‘Great Fire Wall’

• Zao: The making of consumption culture within the World’s factory

• Bit player or the new powerhouse? China’s struggle with scientific innovations

• The triumph of paintings: Social protests and the Chinese art scene

• From ping-pong diplomacy to Linsanity: Sports and modern Chinese identity

• The greening of China: The social cost of industrialization and grassroots environmental movements

• The ‘sea turtles’ (overseas-returns) and Chinese diaspora: An alternative imagination of Chineseness

• ‘All under Heaven’ (Tianxia) reinterpreted: China in a globalized world

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Barr, M (2011) *Who’s Afraid of China?* Zed Books

Bergstrom, M (2012) *All Eyes East: Lessons from the Front Lines of Marketing to China's Youth*. Palgrave Macmillan

Fei, X (1992) *From the Soil: The Foundations of Chinese Society*. University of California Press

Gittings, J (2006) *The Changing Face of China: From Mao to Market*. Oxford University Press

Hansen, M. H., & Svarverud, R. (2010). *iChina: The rise of the individual in modern Chinese society*. NIAS Press.

Shirk, S.L (2011) *Changing Media, Changing China*. Oxford University Press

Stockman, N (2000) *Understanding Chinese Society*. Polity Press

Vine, R (2011) *New China New Art*. Prestel

Yan, Y (2009) *The Individualization of Chinese Society*. BERG

Zha, J (1996) *China Pop: How Soap Operas, Tabloids and Bestsellers are Transforming a Culture*. The New Press

Zhang, J.Y (2012) *The Cosmopolitanization of Science: Stem Cell Governance in China*. Palgrave Macmillan

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 22

Private study hours: 128

Total study hours: 150 hours

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Coursework –essay (2000 words) – 40%

Coursework – essay (2500 words) – 50%

Coursework –seminar presentation – 10%

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** |  |  | X | X | X | X |  |
| Lectures | X | X | X |  |  |  | X |
| Seminars |  |  | X | X | X | X |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay 2000 words | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |
| Essay 2500 words | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |
| presentation | X | X | X | X |  | X | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The central subject of the module is of an international nature and the generic outcomes are applicable in international contexts.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 2013 | Original specification | September 2013 N | N/A | N/A |
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| Updated by SSPSSR into CMA compliant format November 2018 |