

## Course Description

### MEDD8802 Sociology of Education: Classic and Contemporary Theories

Course description		
<p>This course examines sociological theories, both classic and contemporary, and places them in an East-West context for the study of educational institutions and systems. The main objective of this course is to provide a disciplinary grounding to students in the sociology of education. The course includes an examination and application of the main sociological concepts in various cultural and social contexts. The ultimate aim is to employ the sociology of education to strengthen conceptual skills for research development of students. Case studies from the lecturer's research in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and other countries in Asia will be used to discuss how to adapt both concepts and methods to policy research in education. In sum, this course offers an overview of the fundamental sociological concepts that can guide the analysis of specific educational issues in China.</p> <p><b>Coursework / Examination ratio:</b> <u>100</u> % Coursework, <u>0</u> % Examination</p>		
Course objectives		
<p>The course aims to help students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the major theories in sociology of education and critically evaluate them in Chinese educational settings.</li> <li>2. Summarize ongoing debates in the sociology of education.</li> <li>3. Apply key concepts in the sociology of education literature to an actual school system.</li> <li>4. Develop an educational vision for the enhancement of equity and social justice</li> </ol>		
Course learning outcomes (CLOs)	Aligned programme learning outcomes (PLOs)	
1. Identify the main theories and methodological approaches in the sociology of education	PLO 2	
2. Apply key concepts in the sociology of education literature to an actual school system	PLO 3	
3. Reflect on how schooling reproduces educational inequality	PLO 6	
Course assessment methods		
Assessment method	Weighting (%)	Aligned course learning outcome(s)
Study group work	25	CLOs 1, 2, 3
Student poster exhibition	25	CLOs 1, 2, 3
Individual reading reflection	50	CLOs 1, 2, 3
Course content and topics		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sociological perspectives on Education: An Overview</li> <li>• Symbolic Interactionism</li> <li>• Functionalism: Education as socialization</li> <li>• Functionalism: Education and Political Development</li> <li>• Conflict Theories: Marxism and Education</li> <li>• Conflict Theories: Cultural Capital</li> <li>• Course Summary Education for Equity and Public Goods</li> </ul>		
Required / recommended readings and online materials		
To be provided in course outline		
Other additional course information		
Nil		