GEO
Study Abroad

MAPPING HONG KONG
Instructor: Liska Chan
Language of Instruction: English
UO Credits: 4
Contact Hours: 40

Hong Kong

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Radical environmental challenges demand innovative and collaborative approaches to urban design. The first step in urban design is to understand how to *learn* the city. In this program, students will explore the relationships of the biophysical and the cultural/human built environments of Hong Kong. Ways the city has changed swiftly over short periods of time will be studied through tours, excursions to the city's edges, lectures, drawing, researching and the active making of hybrid/collaged maps in teams.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course will provide an introduction to Hong Kong as an ever-changing dynamic city. Through tours, readings and mapping projects students will engage with the relationships of the biophysical and cultural layers of this centuries-old city.

Student Outcomes. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Understand relationships between natural bio-physical and human-made systems
- Understand the concepts of physical imprint and ecological footprint of the city, and the relationship between them
- Articulate ideas of sustainable development relevant to their own built environment and physical, cultural and regional context
- Learn skills and techniques in mapping, analysis, representation, and presentation of ideas of sustainability
- Apply concepts and theories of sustainable development to disciplinary studies and in future professional endeavors
- Work effectively in teams in the context of problem based learning

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

The course will be conducted through tours, lectures, museum visits, excursions to the city's edges , sketchbook exercises and mapping projects. It will be led by various instructors from Hong Kong University (including the Department Head, Professor Matthew Pryor) and Professor Liska Chan from the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Over the course of the three weeks, there will be two group projects done with the graduate students of Hong Kong University's Landscape Architecture program, plus one mapping project done individually. UO students will have time outside the three weeks in Hong Kong to finish their individual projects. The first two projects are titled,

respectively, *Hong Kong City Space* and *Hong Kong Sustainable Site Study*. These each will be conducted in teams with HKU students. The third project, ongoing throughout the three weeks in Hong Kong, and then not due until a month after the program ends is a *Hong Kong Derive*, which will ask students to engage in with the city in unorthodox ways and document their experiences. The goal of the *derive* is to provide insights into the city's palimpsest – the layers of the city's history and how those layers engage with each other.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

The instructor team will evaluate student performance on the basis of the quality of interaction and production. This evaluation includes consideration of the following: daily progress of design project; quality of project content; verbal explanation and graphic representation during reviews; participation and contribution to discussions, workshops, and field trips; knowledge of readings and other assignments. The course will be weighted as follows:

- Project 1: Hong Kong City Space—30%
- Project 2: Hong Kong Sustainability Site Study—30%
- Project 3: Hong Kong Derive – 40%

COURSE READINGS

TBA