

COURSE DETAIL

HONG KONG AND THE GREATER BAY AREA

Country

Hong Kong

Host Institution

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

Program(s)

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Asian Studies

UCEAP Course Number

14

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

HONG KONG AND THE GREATER BAY AREA

UCEAP Transcript Title

HONG KONG & GBA

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

The Greater Bay Area (GBA) has become the world's largest urban area. Consisting of Hong Kong, Macau and the nine cities of the Pearl River Delta, in less than forty years it has transformed from a rural backwater to an economic engine of sophisticated manufacturing and services. It has lifted millions of people out of poverty and provided them with new homes and communities. The GBA has also become an important node in a network of megacity regions responsible for much of the world's economic dynamism. For the most part, the GBA has evolved after its economic potential was unleashed by the opening up to Hong Kong and global trade networks. The twin forces of economic agglomeration and urbanization were the drivers of this growth, but were substantially supported by infrastructure development and policy, particularly from individual cities. Yet, it is thought that the region's further development will require a more sophisticated harnessing of agglomeration forces so that the GBA can compete with other highly developed bay areas. Improvements must also be made to deal with substantial environmental and social costs of the GBA's growth. This course is designed to familiarize students with the GBA. The region is more economically powerful, complex and interesting than all but a few of the world's countries. It is deserving of some appreciation. Moreover, Hong Kong has been crucial to the GBA's development and the prosperity of the GBA remains key to the prosperity Hong Kong. To understand why the region is so successful, interesting and important, we will analyze processes such as agglomeration, clustering, migration, urbanization and sustainable development. These processes led the GBA's development and will determine its future—in terms of continued economic development and more importantly in terms of the wellbeing of the GBA's people. We examine how the GBA can function as a cohesive region, but also how the actions of the cities and the diversity of activities within the cities add vibrancy. We also put the GBA's development in perspective, reflecting on the regional culture of the past and what other megacity regions tell us the GBA can be.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

SOSC1400

Host Institution Course Title

HONG KONG AND THE GREATER BAY AREA

Host Institution Campus**Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Social Science

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