

COURSE DETAIL

REFLECTIONS ON EVERYDAY LIFE

Country

Hong Kong

Host Institution

Chinese University of Hong Kong

Program(s)

Chinese University of Hong Kong

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology

UCEAP Course Number

133

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

REFLECTIONS ON EVERYDAY LIFE

UCEAP Transcript Title

REFLECT/DAILY LIFE

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

It is interesting and useful to understand why people do what they do in everyday life. Sociology helps us understand human behaviors by examining the social settings in which people live their lives. The primary goal of this course is to help you think sociologically—to think about the social factors that shape people's actions and beliefs—and to show you how such thinking is useful. Through systematic examination, we will try to use sociology to make sense of people's behavior and ideas. The course is divided into three parts. It first starts with the question: Why do people do what they do? We develop the basic building blocks or tools of a sociological perspective to begin to answer this question. Sociology is fundamentally about patterns (we will sometimes call them “structures”) of social relations and interaction and how these patterns influence what people do and think. We introduce ideas and concepts that help analyze and explain how behavioral patterns differ from person to person, from culture to culture, from one time to another. Second, questions: Who gets what? And why? Here we look at structures of inequality and try to make sense of uneven distributions of valued resources among individuals, groups, and societies. We investigate the social mechanisms that maintain or change those inequalities. Third, questions: Why do things change? And why do they sometimes stay the same? Our focus here is on the great social institutions common to, yet different in, all societies, starting with family and marriage and moving from there to religion, politics, and criminal justice. The course also examines sources of social change that shape and challenge inequalities and institutions.

Language(s) of Instruction

Host Institution Course Number

UGED2933

Host Institution Course Title

REFLECTIONS ON EVERYDAY LIFE

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

General Education

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