

# COURSE DETAIL

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY IN CHINA

**Country**

Hong Kong

**Host Institution**

University of Hong Kong

**Program(s)**

University of Hong Kong

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Asian Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

125

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY IN CHINA

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

SCI & TECH IN CHINA

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

5.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.30

## **Course Description**

Many students in the Faculty of Arts tend to think of “science” and “technology” as irrelevant to them. Typical reactions range from “I am not a science major,” “science is boring,” or “it's too technical.” However, science and technology actually interact with the contemporary history and society of China in significant ways. For example, how many of you are using Lenovo laptop computers? Do you know the history behind Lenovo, IBM, and the entrepreneurial initiative of the Chinese Academy of Sciences since the 1980s? When you go grocery-shopping at a local supermarket, do you actively accept or reject genetically modified foods? How do new health and reproductive technologies (vaccines, new drugs, contraceptives) transform the healthcare system in China, for better or worse? These are some of the questions explored in the course. This course will introduce students to the multiple ways in which science, technology, and society mutually shape one another in modern and contemporary China. Instead of giving a celebratory history of science and China (i.e. China is so great now because of science), the course will take a balanced approach to discuss the beneficial as well as destructive powers of science. The key is to develop the ability to critically understand the good and bad aspects of science and technology. Instead of asking “why do I need to understand science?” as some of you might ask, I want students to consider “how could we understand contemporary China without science?” This course offers a general foundation for China studies majors, minors, and students in other faculties who are interested in thinking the intersection between science, technology, and society in contemporary China.

## **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

## **Host Institution Course Number**

SINO3005

## **Host Institution Course Title**

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY IN CHINA

## **Host Institution Course Details**

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

China Studies

**Course Last Reviewed**

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