COURSE DETAIL

LIVING IN A RISK SOCIETY
Country Australia
Host Institution University of Melbourne
Program(s) University of Melbourne
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Sociology
UCEAP Course Number 122
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title LIVING IN A RISK SOCIETY
UCEAP Transcript Title LIVING:RISK SOCIETY
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description
For good practical and theoretical reasons, risk and uncertainty have emerged as central themes in social science. More flexible labor markets, greater freedom to divorce, cohabit and re-partner and greater diversity in lifestyles erode the certainty with which people can map out their futures. Step-changes in the complexity and scale of technological innovation enable rapid rise in living standards, and, at the same time, bring the possibility of major catastrophes closer. Unexpected disasters, from the Challenger Space Shuttle to Chernobyl, from the Herald of Free Enterprise to Exxon Valdez remind us of the limits to our capacity for control. This course gives an overview to interdisciplinary and sociological approaches to risk and a better understanding why we are concerned about risks and how we can deal with risks and uncertainty as a society but also individually in everyday life. It shows the limits of objectivist understandings of risk and explores the involvement of values, power, knowledge and emotions in the realm of risk.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
SOCI30009

Host Institution Course Title
LIVING IN A RISK SOCIETY

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Sociology

Course Last Reviewed

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