PHIL 4800
Thesis 論文

Course Outline

Time：M 10:30am-1:15pm	**Location: LDS 218**

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

Final year students are required to take this course and write a thesis that represents the culminating experience of their undergraduate studies. The course involves both classroom learning and self-directed thesis project with supervision by course teachers.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

Through class discussion, presentation and individual research, students are expected to

·   demonstrate familiarity with the primary and secondary sources pertaining to their thesis topic,

·   be able to identify some significant philosophical issues on the topic, and

·   explore in depth and discuss competently these issues

Learning activities

1. **Small group seminars on research method**

2. **One-on-one discussions on the proposed topic**

3. **Thesis writing**

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

Task nature	*Description*	*Weight*
One-on-one discussions		20%
Thesis	5000-8000 words in English or 7000-10000 words in Chinese	60%
Class Performance		20%

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

To be provided in the one-on-one discussions, depending on students' proposed topics.

Course schedule

Week	Topics	Remarks
Week 1 4 Sep	No Class	The Inauguration Ceremony
Week 2 11 Sep	Seminar on Research Methodology: Writing Basics	Required Reading: Frank Jackson "Epiphenomenal Qualia" & Douglas Ehring "Personal Identity and Time Travel"
Week 3 18 Sep	No Class	
Week 4 25 Sep	• Presentation and Discussion on Research Proposal: Each student should give a 10-min presentation on their proposed topic, followed by 5-min discussion • The presentation should cover (a) the specific question that the thesis will address, and (b) the argument(s) that the thesis will focus on.	
Week 5 2 Oct	No Class/Holiday	
Weeks 6-7 9 Oct- 16 Oct	• One-on-one meeting with the instructor: Students should contact their instructor to arrange a meeting. Each student must meet their instructor once for about 1 hour. • Please email your formative essay, which includes a preliminary research on proposed ideas, to the instructor 3 days before the meeting. • Your essay should be 2000-3000 words in length in English or 3000-4000 words long in length in Chinese. The word count does not include notes and bibliography. Please include a bibliography in your essay.	
Weeks 8-11 23 Oct- 13 Nov	• Discuss a full draft of your thesis with the instructor. Your thesis is supposed to be 5000-8000 words in length in English or 7000-10000 words in length in Chinese. The word count does not include notes and bibliography. • Again, one-on-one meeting: Students should contact the instructor to arrange a meeting. Each student must meet their instructor once. • Please email a full draft of your thesis to the instructor 3 days before the meeting.	
Weeks 12-13 20 Nov- 27 Nov	• Thesis presentations: Each student should give a presentation (of 15-20 mins) of their thesis draft, followed by discussion of 10-15 mins. (30 mins in total for each student.)	
4 Dec 23:59	**Submission Deadline for the finalized thesis**	

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
Name:	Lo Tien-chun
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TA	
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Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.