COURSE CONTENT

Course Code / Title : HS4034 Interrogating Innovation

Pre-requisites : HS1001 Person and Society
                HS2001 Classical Social Theory,
                HS2002 Doing Social Research,
                HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory,
                HS3002 Understanding Social Statistics

No. of AUs. : 4

Contact Hours : 52 Hours

Course Aims

By considering the culture and politics of the discourse and practice of ‘innovation’ in state, industry, and academic spheres, this class gives you an opportunity to apply your cumulative social scientific training to contemporary questions of major, local, regional and global importance. By comparing and contrasting American, Chinese, Singaporean, and other models and approaches, you will gain competence in cross-cultural sociological, cultural, and geographical analysis. Overall, you will gain expertise by leading discussion sessions and deepen your knowledge through research on specific themes of innovation.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Apply social theory and historical analysis to better understand contemporary social issues
2. Analyze, discuss, and write about key themes of ‘innovation’ in a cross-cultural context
3. Present research findings on innovation theories and practices
4. Lead a discussion session about course themes
5. Compose a coherent research paper that develops an original theoretical argument about the meaning or conduct of innovation and applies it to an empirical case

Course Content

Week 1: Introduction to course; different imaginations and significance of ‘innovation’
Week 2: Innovation and political economy
Week 3: Innovation and industry
Week 4: Innovation and the nation
Week 5: Innovation and academia
Week 6: Innovation and the creative class
Week 7: Innovation and the city
Week 8: Social Innovation
Week 9: ‘Thought leaders’ and idea entrepreneurs
Week 10: ‘Innovation’ in transnational translation—China as a case study
Week 11: Student presentations
Week 12: Student presentations
Week 13: Student presentations, Final discussion

Course Assessment

CA1 : 45%
CA2 : 10%
CA3 : 15%
CA4 : 15%
CA5 : 15%
Total : -------
        100%