

SOSC 1210
First-Year Seminar for Quantitative Social Analysis
Fall 2017

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Office: 3387 (Lifts 13-15), x7776

Friday, 4:30pm-5:30pm, 1032 LSK Bldg

Office hours: Noon-1pm on Tuesdays, and by appointment

1 September 2017 version – Subject to revision

Overview

Through discussions led by the instructor, and presentations from invited guests, this seminar course will introduce the goals and organization of the Quantitative Social Analysis program, help students develop their study plans, and survey careers in which students may apply the skills they learnt in quantitative social analysis. The class will also introduce applications of quantitative social analysis in non-academic settings such as government, industry, and non-profits.

By the end of the semester, students develop a study which maps out their remaining time at HKUST, and reflects their career interests.

Grading

20% Attendance

20% Participation in discussion

10% Short responses to prompts

Occasionally during the semester, I will ask students to post very short responses to prompts. These responses will be no more than a few sentences. For example, in advance of a class session on a specific topic, I might ask each student to post one question that they would like to see discussed.

25% Statement of interests and goals

By 7th week, students will submit a brief (250 words) statement of their interests and goals for work or further study after graduation from HKUST. The statement should discuss how they hope their time at HKUST will contribute to their realization of those goals.

25% Study plan

By the last week of class, students will submit a study plan that will be a roadmap for their remaining time at HKUST. The study plan should be realistic in that it should show how all requirements can be completed. It should be accompanied by a brief (250 words) statement of how the selection of courses in the study plan will contribute to achievement of the goals described in the earlier statement.

Topics

Visits by Campus/School units (tentative – still being scheduled and awaiting confirmation from relevant units)

- Student Affairs Office on HKUST Connect, volunteering opportunities, counselling services
- Library
- Centre for Language Education on opportunities for language learning at HKUST
- Career Centre
- International and Mainland Exchange (SHSS)
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program

Discussions

- Academic Conduct – What is plagiarism, and how to avoid it.
- Distinguishing between sources: journal articles, news articles, government and non-profit reports
- Career and postgraduate opportunities with QSA

Schedule (tentative)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>
1/9/2017	Introductions
8/9/2017	The QSA Major –Requirements and Electives
15/9/2017	The QSA Major –Requirements and Electives continued
22/9/2017	Initial discussion of career/long-term goals
29/9/2017	TBA
6/10/2017	TBA
13/10/2017	TBA
	Due: Statement of interests and goals
20/10/2017	TBA
27/10/2017	TBA
3/11/2017	TBA
10/11/2017	TBA
17/11/2017	TBA
24/11/2017	TBA
	Due: Study plans