

## CHES5201A Independent Study Project

2020-21, Term 2

**Course Coordinator:** Dr. Tim Summers ([summers@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:summers@cuhk.edu.hk))

**Teaching Assistant:** TBC

### Course description

In this course, students will produce a substantial research paper on a China-related topic.

### Learning activities

Students will work closely with an assigned supervisor throughout term to agree their topic, develop a research question and methodology that deals with primary and secondary sources, carry out their research, and develop an original and well-informed argument. Each student will produce a first draft of their paper and present their provisional research findings to other students on the course in a small-scale seminar towards the end of term. The final paper will be then be submitted after the end of term.

### Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, successful students:

- will have developed skills and experience in original research and analysis;
- will be able to construct a complex expository argument based on original research;
- will have developed further their academic literacy and writing skills.

### Assessment and grading

The paper should be between 7,000 and 8,000 words (including footnotes and bibliography). Students will be assessed on three elements:

1. 20%: First draft of the research paper (to be assessed by individual supervisor). This should be submitted by **22 March 2021**.
2. 20%: Presentation of research to student seminar (assessed by course coordinator and supervisors). The seminar will take place in the week of 19 April 2021 (date and time TBC).
3. 60%: Final paper (assessed by individual supervisor, with grading standardisation arranged by course coordinator). Final papers should be submitted by **30 April 2021** (subject to confirmation by the individual supervisor).

Both first draft and final papers should be uploaded to Veriguide and a signed copy of the Veriguide receipt placed in the course coordinator's mailbox (11/F YIA).

### Eligibility

Students who are interested in taking this course should submit a short research proposal to the course coordinator by **4 January 2021**. Decisions about which students can take the course will be based on the quality of the research proposal, GPA from Term 1, and availability of an appropriate supervisor. Students are encouraged to relate their research proposal to their literature review for CHES5001A/B in Term 1.

*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 the policies, regulations and procedures.*