

## CHES5201A Independent Study Project: Research Paper

2021-22, Term 2

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

### 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, deal 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 near the end of term. The final paper will 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 before **mid April 2022** so that the supervisor can give feedback before the presentation.
2. 20%: Presentation of research to student seminar (assessed by course coordinator and supervisors). The seminar will take place in the **week of 20 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 **9 May 2022** (subject to confirmation by the individual supervisor).

The final paper should be uploaded to Veriguide and a signed copy of the Veriguide receipt sent to the course coordinator.

### Supervisors and eligibility

Decisions about which students can take the course will be based on the quality of the research proposal, GPA from Term 1, and agreement by an appropriate supervisor. Students are encouraged to relate their research proposal to their literature review for CHES5001A/B in Term 1. Students who are interested in taking this course should submit a short research proposal to the course coordinator by **Monday 3 January 2022**.

A number of CCS full-time and part-time faculty will serve as supervisors for this course:

- Prof Jan Kiely: modern Chinese history
- Prof Willy Lam: Chinese politics and political economy
- Prof Gao Yunwen: modern Chinese literature
- Prof Tim Summers: International relations
- Prof Kristof van den Troost: Chinese cinema

Other faculty members may be available by arrangement and students are encouraged to discuss their research ideas with the course coordinator or faculty before they submit their proposal.

*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.*