

RSS553e Contemporary Issues in Societies from a Multidisciplinary Social Science Perspective

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

E-Learning: BLENDED - Learning is done MAINLY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. This is supplemented with SOME face-to-face sessions. If the course has an exam component, this will be administered on-campus.

Synopsis:

The RSS553 advanced seminar course will focus on 6 to 8 specialized topics. The course is designed to impart in-depth knowledge and understanding of the chosen specialized topics, to enable students to proficiently evaluate and interpret social science research and societal phenomena in those areas. As contemporary social issues intersect multiple social science disciplines (e.g., sociology, political science, and economics), this course will examine social science issues that are pertinent to modern-day societies from a multidisciplinary approach. The course will provide students with the research skills to develop innovative research methods or solutions that aim to solve evolving societal issues. The course also aims to train students who are able to translate the existing research into applied projects that have impact on people. Topics chosen will vary from year to year, depending on the prevailing expertise of the full-time faculty at SUSS and the availability of guest speakers (who are academic experts or industry practitioners).

Topics:

- Current issues in developed societies
- Ageing
- Migration, acculturation and integration
- Globalization, connectivity, and technology
- Health and healthcare policies in developed societies
- Modernization and social transformation
- Economic development and well-being
- Social equality, social trust and governance
- Social capital
- Social mobility and inequality
- Consumption and values
- Media, culture and society

Learning Outcome:

- Examine the theories, concepts, and findings underlying current issues in social sciences
- Assess the influence of sociocultural and economic factors for the chosen specialized topics
- Evaluate the impact of policies on social and economic issues, and the challenges in policy implementation
- Select relevant theories to analyse current social issues
- Propose appropriate recommendations for evaluating and addressing social issues from a multidisciplinary perspective
- Design research projects relevant to real-world problems and recommend solutions to solve the problems

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	25
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	20
	PRESENTATION 1	15
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	40
Total		100