

2022 - 2023 SSC Newsletter Issue 13

THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE



RETRO.HK GAMING EXPO 2022

Strategic Development Grant Project AY2022/2023 - "From Retro to the Metaverse Games: Imagining Asia and Creative Industries from the Past, the Present, to the Future"



FEATURE



The three-day RETRO.HK Gaming Expo was held on 27 - 29 October, co-organised by the Department of Art and Design and the Department of Social Science of HSUHK, and RETRO.HK. The Expo exhibited over 40 sets of classic games and consoles including the classic Street Fighter, Saturn Bomberman and Tetris. HSUHK staff and students, as well as the general public, could learn about the historical, cultural and social significance of gaming developments in Hong Kong from the perspectives of Asian studies and creative industries.



UPDATES

New Programme



香港恒生大學
THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG



MSS-PPRG
公共政策及風險治理
社會科學碩士

The Master of Social Sciences in Public Policy and Risk Governance was approved by the Chief Executive-in-Council in late December 2022. The Programme is the first public policy master's programme in Hong Kong focusing on risk research. It aims to cultivate students who are interested in public administration, risk governance and policy research-related career development.

For details, please visit <https://ssc-pprg.hsu.edu.hk/>.

Awards

- Social Movement Studies Journal's 2022 Britta Baumgarten Memorial Prize – Honorable Mentioning. [Samson Yuen and **Gary Tang**, "Instagram and Social Capital: Youth Activism in a Networked Movement".]
- HSUHK Teaching Excellence Awards (2021/22) – **Dr Baldwin Wong** (Former Assistant Professor of SSC)

RGC 2022/23 Funded Research

Faculty Development Scheme (FDS)

Project Reference No.: UGC/FDS14/H15/22 ([Link to abstract](#))

Project Title: Transnational Ageing and Family Processes among Elderly Hong Kong Parents

Principal Investigator: **Dr NGAN Lucille Lok-sun**

NEW FACULTY MEMBER



Dr Chris Li

Hello everyone, this is Chris! I joined the Department of Social Science in August 2022. My main research interests are political theory and philosophy of socialism. Recently, I have gained increasing interest in jurisprudence of constitutional review from a comparative perspective as well as political economy of urban social movements. I teach two courses of the newly established Philosophy, Politics and Economics undergraduate programme: History and Philosophy and Economics and Political Economy, as well as a General Education course Critical Thinking. More broadly, I am also interested in teaching and researching history of political economy, contemporary history of Central and Eastern Europe, political theory, and law.

In leisure time, I contribute op-eds, essays and book reviews to local newspapers, journals and media sites from time to time. I am also a contributor of a column popularizing academic knowledge in international affairs for Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). From 2017 to 2019, I co-founded and edited a bi-monthly journal for kids, featuring anything we find fascinating, from science to ethics. The British philosopher Isaiah Berlin said that he was like a taxi driver who would talk about anything he knew once commissioned. I like this metaphor, and aspire to live up something like it for the public.

INTERVIEW WITH FACULTY MEMBER



Dr Angelo Leung

Angelo joined the Department of Social Science in 2020. His research interest includes political philosophy, meta-ethics, and applied ethics. After June 2020, his PhD research turned to be concerned with two interrelated questions. First, is there anything special, as a matter of principle, about the human body? Second, in what sense and to what degree are we free (overall)?

Imagine that an armed gang holds an innocent individual in captivity by fencing his physical surroundings but provides him with a medical cabin allowing the user to sustain, enhance, and learn different capacities. Reasons against such imprisonment are manifold, but a defence of the body right silent about it is barely worthy of the name. On the other hand, if one believes that the body right is solely grounded on the body's instrumental value, then one can consistently argue that the imprisonment is wrong because, let's say, it prevents access to external instruments. But one can hardly deny that the human body and external resources are relevantly symmetrical concerning justice.

Angelo argues that greater moral weight should be assigned to the body right than to ownership of the external resource (, other things being equal). In interacting with the world, a human individual exercises his causal agency by making changes; he also exercises his causal 'patience' by undergoing or suffering changes. Respect for an individual requires respecting his choice as to what changes he makes and undergoes. Controlling an individual's use of resources, be they external or bodily, disrespects his choice to make changes. But since only bodily changes are changes in the corresponding individual, an individual's choice to undergo changes is disrespected only by controlling his bodily changes.

Suicide is an interesting example that illustrates Angelo's account of the body right. An individual committing suicide performs as an agent and as a patient since he makes and undergoes the same changes. A society that lags behind other similarly prosperous societies in the quality of death because the law prevents, let's say, euthanasia, assisted suicide, and palliative care is also worse concerning respect for citizens' choice to undergo changes.

An analysis of the concept of freedom is part of Angelo's account of the body right. Most of the recent work on freedom is concerned with the liberal-republican debate. The former is too subjective, linking unfreedom to the probability of the powerholder's interference. If an authoritarian government is less likely to interfere with some people's lives for some strategic consideration (such as 'peaceful rise'), then those people are freer than others. The latter is too objective, linking unfreedom to the possibility of a powerholder's interference with impunity. A powerful saint renders others unfree to the same extent as an equally powerful sinner does. The analysis of freedom given by Angelo stands in the middle. Unfreedom is a matter of the powerholder's disposition to exercise power. Disposition does not correspond to probability. A bomb stored safely is by nature explosive but is unlikely to explode. The disposition to exercise power reflects the powerholder's general performance in a broad range of equally weighed (hypothetical) external circumstances.

SSC Research Seminars

SSC Research Seminar

Can inequality reduction decrease carbon emissions in China? A counterfactual analysis

By Hon S. Chan and Mengxue Zhao

The talk mainly elaborates how we conduct our study to examine the tradeoff between the two sustainable development goals (SDGs)—inequality reduction and carbon emission reduction. The talk begins by discussing how extant literatures address it and identifying their strengths and weaknesses. Riding on the literatures, we propose to use micro survey data from the China Family Panel Studies (CFPS) to conduct a counterfactual analysis. Our study decomposes and quantifies the net effects of consumption growth, redistribution, and changing patterns of consumption on household carbon emissions. We will discuss our research methods, report and interpret our findings. The findings of our study convey a profoundly important and alarming message: the redistribution measures for inequality reduction may increase household carbon emissions. The findings attest to the need for Chinese policymakers to seriously consider the trade-off between inequality reduction and emission reduction, particularly in certain regions in China. To address the trade-off, one key measure is to encourage low-carbon lifestyles and consumption patterns to ensure that the benefits gained by poorer households from redistribution measures will not translate into higher emissions.

Professor Hon S. Chan
Vice-President (Learning and Student Experience) of The Hong Kong University of Hong Kong

Prof. Chan obtained his PhD degree from the Maxwell School, Syracuse University, USA. He worked as Head of the Department of Public Policy and Assistant Dean and Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences of CityU before he joined the HKUHK in July 2012. Prof. Chan's main research interests include Chinese civil service, non-market, cadre personnel management and environmental governance. He has published many highly-cited journal papers, book chapters, edited books and professional communications. Prof. Chan received research fellowships from a number of prestigious research institutions including the National Science Foundation of the Executive Yuan, Taiwan, the American Society of Public Administration, and the National University of Singapore.

Date: 2022. 9. 29 (Thursday)
Time: 1 pm to 2:15 pm
Venue: D301

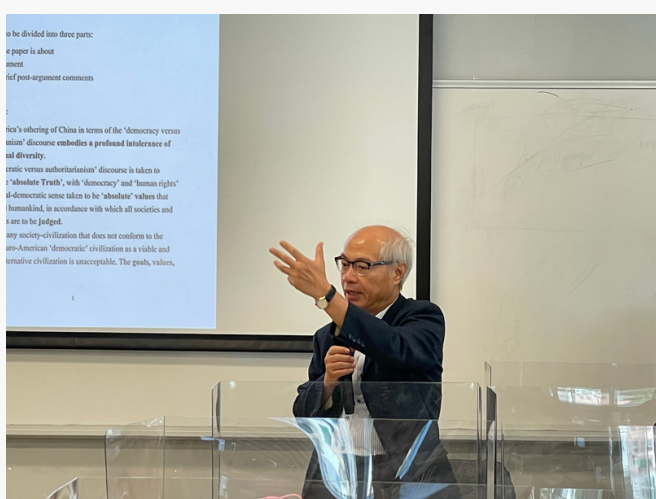
Registration




Prof. Hon S. Chan [Vice-President (Learning and Student Experience)] and Mengxue Zhao

29 September 2022

Can inequality reduction decrease carbon emissions in China? A counterfactual analysis



Prof. Raymond Lau
(Adjunct Professor, SSC)

27 October 2022

The cultural-psychological roots of Euro-America's intolerance of cultural diversity in its othering of China

SSC Research Seminar

The cultural psychological roots of Euro-America's intolerance of cultural diversity in its othering of China

Since 2007, China has been described, firstly by America and then also by western Europe, as posing an 'existential threat' to Euro-America and, indeed, the whole world. Under the Biden administration, this description has been couched in terms of the 'democracy versus authoritarianism' discourse. In sociology and cultural studies, this kind of labelling of a particular group, simply by being itself, as a 'threat' to the rest of society is called othering. There are different aspects to this othering of China, such as in relation to motives and normative issues, but we are not concerned with these other aspects. Instead, we consider this othering of China in a purely factual sense. We show that the Other in the above discourse is China as a distinct society and civilization and not simply the Chinese government; and that this discourse embodies a profound intolerance of civilizational diversity in that Euro-America believes itself to be in sole possession of an 'absolute Truth' applicable to all humankind, which the entire world including China must, and be made to, accept and conform to. This belief has deep cultural-psychological roots. By examining Christian beliefs and Christianity's proselytizing tradition, the uniquely European unilinear view of history, and Europe's goals, traditions and practices in external relations since the so-called 'voyages of discovery', it is shown that, despite the talk of multiculturalism in recent decades, deeply embedded in Euro-American consciousness is a cultural mentality and an external political culture that underpin the above-mentioned intolerance.

Raymond W.K. Lau retired as professor of sociology from the Open University of Hong Kong (now renamed Metropolitan University of Hong Kong) in Aug 2019, and is now adjunct professor at the Department of Social Science. He has published in various sociology journals including *British Journal of Sociology*, *Sociology*, *Current Sociology* and *Media, Culture & Society*. In recent years, his research has diversified into ancient Chinese philosophy and comparative ancient intellectual developments. Since retirement, he has published two papers on the philosophy of Zhuangzi, in *Journal of Asian Philosophy* (2021) and *《新亞學報》* (2019), and a monograph titled *Intellectual Developments in Greece and China: Contingency, Institutionalization and Path-Dependency* (2020). He has recently been invited to present a paper at the conference titled 'Needham's dialogical vision: Understanding science as a multi-civilizational outcome' co-organized by, among others, the University of Cambridge to be held in Hong Kong in March 2023.

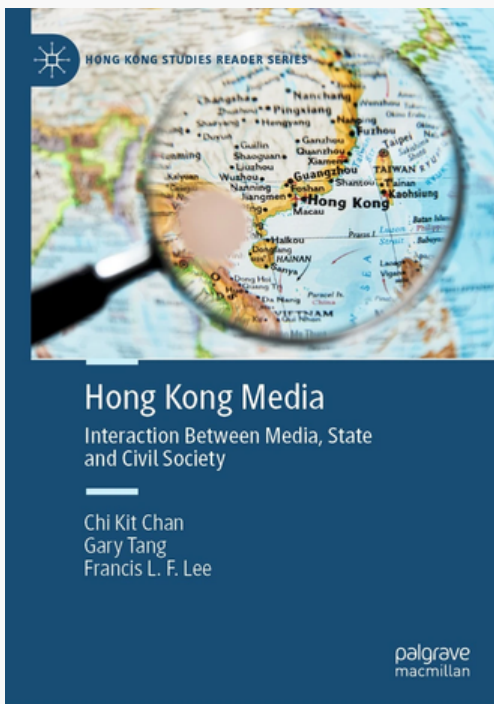
Date: 2022. 10. 27 (Thursday)
Time: 2:30 pm to 3:45 pm (HGPS)
Venue: A302

Registration



Publications by Faculty Members

Book



Chan, C. K., **Tang, G.**, & Lee, F. L. F. (2022).

Hong Kong media: Interaction between media, state and civil society. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

香港恒生大學亞洲語言文化中心、陳洲

日本語能力試驗精讀本：
3天學完N1・88個合格關鍵技巧



Publications by Faculty Members

Journal

- **Ngan, L. L. S.**, & Chan, A. K. W. (2022). Transnational Familyhood and Migration Strategies among Parachute Kids-turned-Parents from Hong Kong, *Asian Studies Review*, 46(2), 197-214, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10357823.2021.1937939>
- **Tang, G.**, Lee, F. L. F., Tsang, C. K. (2022). The construction of investor-subjects in a housing-led growth society: the case of Hong Kong. *The Social Science Journal*. (online first)
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03623319.2022.2066879>
- **Tang, G.**, & Chung, H. F. (2022). Radicalisation, exhaustion, and networked movement in abeyance: Hong Kong university students' localist identification after the Umbrella Movement. *China Perspectives*, 2022(2), 51-63.
<https://doi.org/10.4000/chinaperspectives.13749>
- **潘啟聰**：〈閱讀治療在華語學界近三十年發展回顧〉《本土心理學研究》，2022年12月，第58期，頁173-220。
- **潘啟聰、歐陽皓江**：〈茶禪活動對大學生心理健康影響之研究〉《人間佛教學報藝文》，2022年11月，第42期，頁116-145。

Policy Report

- **Tang, G.**, & Kwok, B. (2022). Does the design of pictorial warnings matter? A report on the effectiveness of pictorial warnings on cigarette package. Hong Kong: Centre for Public Policy Research, The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong; Information Design Lab, School of Design, Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Presenter	Date	Topic	Event	Organiser
Dr Michael Chan	12 Aug 2022	Survey on Slash/ Working/ Ministry Attitude of Hong Kong's Youth Christian/新一代基督徒的生活形態、工作態度與事奉觀研究)	Annual Conference on Slasher culture in Hong Kong	Centre for Life and Ethics Studies, The Society for Truth and Light, Hong Kong.
Dr Joe Poon	29 Oct 2022	有關生者及先人的「飲食文化」	廟宇文化講座	華人廟宇委員會主辦; 長春社文化古蹟資源中心協辦
Dr Joe Poon	2 Dec 2022	《東亞地區佛教心理學發展探析》要點講述	東亞與東南亞人間佛教研究叢書發表暨國際學術研討會	香港中文大學人間佛教研究中心
Dr Victor Chan	4 Dec 2022	Negotiating transnational heritage conservation: cultural coexistence along Belt and Road zones	20th Asia Pacific Conference	Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
Dr Rami Chan, Dr Lucille Ngan and Ms Eunice Chiu	5 Dec 2022	Panic search as a simulation of migration: An analysis of keyword searches on migration information triggered by recent political and health crises in Hong Kong	International Workshop: In search of greener pastures? Migration discourses, drivers and dynamics in the new Hong Kong exodus	City University of Hong Kong

Presenter	Date	Topic	Event	Organiser
Dr Joseph Li	6 Dec 2022	Small Stores as Method	Symposium on Doing Cultural Studies in Hong Kong	Chinese University of Hong Kong
Dr Victor Chan	10 Dec 2022	Escape, family network and shadow border-crossing system: Mainland Chinese students' 'home return' amid the fifth wave of COVID-19 in Hong Kong	10th East Asian Regional Conference in Alternative Geography	National Taiwan University
Dr Eva Hung	10 Dec 2022	Manoeuvring the sanitized border: Macao's petty traders under COVID-19	10th East Asian Regional Conference in Alternative Geography	National Taiwan University
Dr Joseph Li	12 Dec 2022	Cultural Theories in Cultural Studies.	Postgraduate Seminar at International Studies [conducted by Prof. Cheung Yuk Man]	Ritsumeikan University



Student Learning Activities

Career Talk



Facilitator: Dr Joe Poon

Alumni: Tony Yau, Athena Chan, Long Yu

1 December 2022

Topic: 你的未來老闆會shortlist你?



26 November 2022

Yim Tin Tsai, Sai Kung

Field Trip



Student Learning Activities

BA-PSY

Fun Arts and Self-exploration - Arts Therapy Experiential Workshop

Date: 17 November 2022

Speaker: Ms. Yoyo Yan



Psychology Professional Seminars

Fun Arts and Self-exploration

Arts Therapy Experiential Workshop

Abstract
In this workshop you will experience a creative way of self-expression and a taste of expressive arts. You will also experience a journey of self-exploration through different arts modalities.

Facilitator
Ms. Yoyo YAN Ka Yiu
Registered Arts (Expressive Arts) Therapist (ANZACATA)
Counselling Psychologist (HKPS)

Exclusively for BA-PSY Students

Date: 17 November 2022 (Thursday)
Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm (1 IGPS)
Venue: D301

 心理學及社會工作學系
BA-PSY IN PSYCHOLOGY
香港恒生大學
THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG



Student Learning Activities

BSS-AS**Service Learning in Modules**

ASI1002 Individual and Society

The project aims to encourage cultural exchange and interaction between non-Chinese speaking pupils and ASI students. There were games, sports and outing activities organised by ASI students to pupils in Tsing Yi Trade Association Primary School.



Student Learning Activities

BSS-AS

Service Learning in Modules

ASI4102 Special Topics in Asian Studies - Globalisation of Asian Tea Culture

Students who participated in the service learning component of the module attended the end-of-semester Tea Ceremony Practicum to mark the closing of their training on tea appreciation and tutoring for tea art classes at secondary schools throughout the semester.



Student Learning Activities

BSS-AS

Asian Cultural Festival: Kyo-Yuzen Workshop 3 November 2022



Graduation Photo Day for Class of 2022 9 December 2022



Student Learning Activities

BSS-PPE

PPE Seminar

Topic: 面對社經不平等及棘手社會現象，我們有何道德義責？

Date: 5 October 2022

Time: 16:00 – 18:00

Speaker: Mr Brian Wong



LYCEUM 論恒

Topic: 如何在困限中得自由：論莊子的自由觀

Date: 24 November 2022

Time: 14:00 – 16:00

Speaker: Mr Kwan Ho Chuen (Corrupt the Youth)

Student Learning Activities

BSS-PPE



【PPE電影會】 The Social Dilemma

Date: 3 November 2022

Time: 18:30 - 21:00

Facilitator: Dr Arnold Fang

PPE Book Club (Semester 1)

Selected Book: On Liberty

Author: John Stuart Mill



Editors:
Dr Michael Chan;
Ms Kitty Wong

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