

SOCW 7397 or SOCW 8397

Child Welfare Policies and Practices in China and the United States

Based in Houston, Hong Kong and China, **Nov 29-Dec 14, 2003**

**A Joint Program of University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work and
City University of Hong Kong Department of Applied Social Studies**

I. Course (3.0 credit hours)

A. Catalogue Description

Comparative study of child welfare policies and practices in China and the United States, through study abroad

B. Purpose

The purpose of this course is to critically analyze the policy formulation and practice implementation of the child welfare systems in China and the United States. This is an elective course that includes lectures, seminars, and site visits.

II. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare the service delivery system of the two countries, including mandatory and optional services in child welfare (in governmental and not-for-profit sectors).
2. Provide a critical analysis on the implementation of child welfare policies in the two countries, with a special emphasis on the principles in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratified by 191 countries except the United States and Somalia which have only signaled their intention to ratify), and the One Child Policy implemented in China since 1980.
3. Present international perspectives to improve ways of working with disadvantaged children from diverse cultural backgrounds.

III. Course Content

This course emphasizes comparative approaches to the analysis of child welfare policies and the service delivery systems in China and the United States. Content areas include: international and comparative frameworks in policy and practice analyses, child welfare practices in Houston and Hong Kong, governmental and not-for-profit sectors for the protection of children and their families, cross-cultural learning exchanges with social work students and social workers in Hong Kong and China.

Curriculum (*all time schedules are tentative)

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Nov 3-5, 2003

Objective: Cultural Learning Curriculum Preparation:
Child Welfare Services in Houston

Venue: University of Houston classroom
Date & Time: Nov 3 or Nov 5, 2003
4:00pm – 6:00pm
Understanding the U.S. Child and Family Policies
and Practices
Preparation for Expertise Areas
Nov 29-Dec 14, 2003
Objective: Cultural Exchanges in Child and Family Welfare
Venue: City University of Hong Kong, Shanghai University

Recommended Readings

A list of recommended reading will be provided.

Evaluation

- 10% Classroom Attendance
- 30% U.S.- China Exchange Visits and Participation
- 30% Individual Paper on a Selected Topic: U.S. Child and Family Policies and Practices
- 30% Journaling: Comparative Notes between Houston/Hong Kong, or U.S./China
- PhD Presentation: A presentation on the exchange experience given in a doctoral symposium

A = 95-100	C+ = 77-79
A- =90-94	C = 73-76
B+ =87-89	C- = 70-72
B =83-86	D =67-69 (no credit)
B- =80-82	F = below 67 (no credit)

Consultation

Professors will be available continuously during the study abroad portion of the course. Dr. Monit Cheung can be reached during their office hours for this course.

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Addendum: The American with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires that the University make reasonable accommodation to persons with disabilities as defined in the Act. Students who feel they need assistance under the ADA guidelines should approach the instructor to discuss such consideration.