UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Spring, 2004 Dr. Monit Cheung, Professor

SOCW 7397 or SOCW 8397
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% 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.
Dr. Monit Cheung: Room 424, Social Work Building
Phone #: (713)-743-8107
E-mail: mcheung@uh.edu

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.

Revised 10/20/03