

Syllabus

Research method in Urban Sociology

Course Name (Chinese)	城市社会学研究方法概论		
Course Name (English)	Research method in Urban Sociology		
Course Number	020585	Language	English
Credits	1	In-class Hours	18
Course Type	Elective Courses	Examination/Evaluation	Evaluation
Prerequisite Courses	N/A		
Availability of English courses	Yes		
Author	Chen YANG、Huang HUANG	Reviewer	

1. Course Orientation and Requirements

(1) Course Orientation

This course is an English elective course for undergraduate students in urban and rural planning majors and beyond. It is intended for 3rd-4th year undergraduate students in urban and rural planning, architecture, and landscape architecture. The course systematically provides the basic theory and analysis methods in and derived from urban sociology. Through a series of lectures and field investigations, students are required to understand the basic principles of urban sociology, master the spatial analysis methods for urban social phenomena, and use these methods to investigate, analyse and evaluate urban-rural practices. It aims to support the fundamental knowledge for future urban planning design and management.

(2) Course Objectives

Course Objectives 1 : Familiar with the basic theory and development context of urban sociology.

Course Objectives 2: Learn and master the basic analytical methods in urban sociology.

Course Objectives 3: Use these methods to investigate and evaluate urban planning practice.

(3) Indicators of Graduation Requirements Supported by the Course

Serial No.	Indicators of Graduation Requirements	Contents
1	Indicator 1-1	Have advanced political ideological awareness, scientific worldview, correct outlook on life, sound personality, and good moral cultivation.
2	Indicator 1-2	Have a strong sense of social responsibility and a broad international perspective, based on the reality of our country, and establish the right ideals and beliefs.
3	Indicator 1-5	Have basic aesthetic literacy, artistic expression, and basic knowledge of the humanities, social and artistic sciences.
4	Indicator 2-3	Can think independently, with strong integrative, systematic, logical, and critical thinking.
5	Indicator 2-4	Have a strong ability to relate theory to practice, good at identifying problems, analyzing them, and solving them.
6	Indicator 3-2	Acquire the necessary basic knowledge and skills in disciplines related to urban and rural planning.
7	Indicator 3-5	Understand the new directions and progress of urban and rural research and planning in China and abroad.

(4) Correlations between Course Objectives and Graduation Requirements

Course Objectives Graduation Requirements	Course objective 1	Course objective 2	Course objective 3
Indicator 1-1	●	●	
Indicator 1-2	●	●	
Indicator 1-5	●	●	●
Indicator 2-3		●	●
Indicator 2-4		●	●
Indicator 3-2	●	●	●
Indicator 3-5	●	●	

2. Course Content, Teaching Requirements, Credit Hour Allocation, and Teaching Methods

This course is an elective course for undergraduates majoring in urban and rural planning (taught in English). It provides the basic theory of urban sociology and the approaches to the sociological interpretation of urban space. The course introduces the theoretical development trends and research methods of urban sociology under the background of new technologies in the form of a combination of theories and cases. It covers the content of housing and residential mobility, community and residential segregation, multiculturalism and urban integration, urban renewal and public participation, rural revitalization and urban-rural integration, etc.

This course emphasises lecturing with field studies and guides students to practice the theoretical knowledge and research methods taught in the classroom. It encourages the students to use extra-curricular hours to carry out social investigation and research focusing on urban social phenomena and problems identified in real life.

There are 18 in-class hours of lectures and seminars in the course. And it suggests extracurricular hours for field investigation.

No.	Knowledge Modules	No.	Knowledge/Competency Points	Requirements	Supported course objec	Teaching Methods	In-class Hrs	Extra curricular
1	Introduction and Theory	1	The history, basic theory and research content of urban sociology; the course arrangement and assessment content for the course (understanding)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 6、 7	Course Objectives 1、 2	PPT	6	0
		2	The main research methods of urban sociology, focusing on the three basic theories and research methods of the Chicago School, neo-Marxist, and social networks (master)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 6、 7				
		3	Classification and characteristics of research methods in urban sociology; how to conduct a small-scale research project	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 6、 7				
2	Research theories, methods and research applications (cases)	1	Residential Mobility in Worker Communities, Analyzing Social and Spatial Changes in Work Unit Communities (Master)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 4、 5、 6、 7	Course Objectives 1、 2、 3	PPT, Group Discussion	10	0
		2	Sociological research methods applied in urban renewal (Master)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 4、 5、 6、 7				
		3	Sociological research methods applied in community renewal (Master)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 4、 5、 6、 7				
		4	Sociological research methods applied in	Indicator 1、 2、 3、				

No.	Knowledge Modules	No.	Knowledge/Competency Points	Requirements	Supported course objec	Teaching Methods	In-class Hrs	Extra curricular
			rural revitalisation (Master)	4、 5、 6、 7				
		5	Multiscale, multivariate data applied in urban sociology research (familiarity)	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 4、 5、 6、 7				
3	Presentation and summary	1	Select the relevant method learning from the course, and present the final projects in groups	Indicator 1、 2、 3、 4、 5、 6、 7	Course Objectives 1、 2、 3	Presentation	2	0

3. The connotation of "moral education" in the curriculum

Emphasising the requirement of "complying with the new situation of urban tasks, the new requirements of reform and development, the new expectations of people, and insisting on the people-centred development". Emphasising the teaching form of combining lectures of theories and social practices through systematically teaching domestic and foreign theories of urban sociology and analytical methods and using them to interpret the spatial mechanism behind urban social phenomena. The course also guides students to participate in communities, engage in everyday practices in urban life, and pay attention to social hotspots and vulnerable social groups with the guidance of learned theories and analytical methods. In order to deepen their understanding of China's urbanisation and development of society, observation, interviews, and questionnaires among other investigation methods are encouraged. The in-depth understanding enables students to establish correct ideological thoughts and values, and strengthen the social responsibility of urban planners.

4. Assessment, grading methods, and retake requirements

This course combines process assessment and assessment of the final project. The specific assessment methods, contents and corresponding indicators are shown in the table below.

Those who do not pass the comprehensive assessment will be required to retake the course.

Assessment method	Percentage	Supported course objectives	Notes
Course participation	10%	Course objective 1	Attendance.
		Course objective 2	
		Course objective 3	

Assessment method	Percentage	Supported course objectives	Notes
Process assessment	30%	Course objective 1	Mastery of theories and methods, participation in the discussion in class.
		Course objective 2	
		Course objective 3	
Final project	60%	Course objective 1	Ability to analyse and research specific socio-spatial issues using relevant theories and research methods.
		Course objective 2	
		Course objective 3	

5. Evaluation criteria

(1) Evaluation criteria for course participation

Supported course objectives	Evaluation details and score				
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
Objectives 1-3	Full attendance; completion of all paper critiques; active participation in Q&A.	1 absence; 1 missed paper critique; less active participation in Q&A.	2 absences; 2 missed paper critiques; participation in Q&A.	3 absences; 3 missed paper critiques; few participations in Q&A.	4 or more absences; 4 or more missed paper critiques; no participation in Q&A.

(2) Evaluation criteria for process assessment

Supported course objectives	Evaluation details and score				
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
Objectives 1-2	Active participation in group discussion, analysis of concepts in a clear and organized manner; reasonable methods.	Less active participation in group discussion, analysis of concepts in a less clear and organized manner; less reasonable methods.	Participation in group discussion, analysis of concepts in an organized manner; right methods.	Few participations in group discussion, analysis of concepts with some confusion; the method has some problems.	No participation in group discussion, analysis of the concepts is not clearly organized; unreasonable methods.

(3) Evaluation criteria for final project

Supported course objectives	Evaluation details and score				
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
Objectives 1-3	Submitted on time; clear research questions; ability to review relevant literature and identify knowledge gaps; appropriate research methods; clear presentation; strong logic.	Submitted on time; less clear research questions; ability to review relevant literature; less appropriate research methods; less clear presentation; less strong logic.	Submitted on time; research questions are basically clear; can review some relevant literature; research methods are basically reasonable; presentation is fair.	Short late submission; research question is fair; can list relevant literature; research method is fair; presentation is fair.	Severe overdue or non-submission; unclear research questions; lack of literature review; unreasonable research methods; inappropriate presentation.

6. Textbooks and main reference books

Name of teaching book	Authors	Press	Edition	ISBN	Textbook situation	Textbook/Main reference books
The New Urban Sociology	Mark Gottdiener	Routledge	2009 (The fifth edition)	9780367199722		Main reference book
Sociology	David Popenoe	China Remin University Press	The 11th edition	9787300080789		Main reference book
Sociologie urbanine	Grafmeyer Yves	Nanthan	1994 (The first edition)	9782091906485		Main reference book