

## COURSE CONTENT

**Course Code / Title** : HS4034 Interrogating Innovation

**Pre-requisites** : HS1001 Person and Society  
HS2001 Classical Social Theory  
HS2002 Doing Social Research  
HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory  
HS3002 Understanding Social Statistics

**No. of AUs.** : 4

**Contact Hours** : 52

### Course Aims

By considering the culture and politics of the discourse and practice of 'innovation' in state, industry, and academic spheres, this class gives you an opportunity to apply your cumulative social scientific training to contemporary questions of major, local, regional and global importance. By comparing and contrasting American, Chinese, Singaporean, and other models and approaches, you will gain competence in cross-cultural sociological, cultural, and geographical analysis. Overall, you will gain expertise by leading discussion sessions and deepen your knowledge through research on specific themes of innovation.

### Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Apply social theory and historical analysis to better understand contemporary social issues
2. Analyze, discuss, and write about key themes of 'innovation' in a cross-cultural context
3. Present research findings on innovation theories and practices
4. Lead a discussion session about course themes
5. Compose a coherent research paper that develops an original theoretical argument about the meaning or conduct of innovation and applies it to an empirical case

### Course Content

Week 1: Introduction to course; different imaginations and significance of 'innovation'  
Week 2: Innovation and political economy  
Week 3: Innovation and industry  
Week 4: Innovation and the nation

Week 5: Innovation and academia  
Week 6: Innovation and the creative class  
Week 7: Innovation and the city  
Week 8: Social Innovation  
Week 9: 'Thought leaders' and idea entrepreneurs  
Week 10: 'Innovation' in transnational translation—China as a case study  
Week 11: Student presentations  
Week 12: Student presentations  
Week 13: Student presentations, Final discussion

**Course Assessment**

CA1	: 45%
CA2	: 10%
CA3	: 15%
CA4	: 15%
CA5	: 15%
<b>Total</b>	----- <b>100%</b>