

Assignment: Final Team Presentation and Report

Total weight: 30%

Presentation (10 minutes): 10%

Report (~2000 words): 15%

Peer assessment and Reflection: 5%

For the final project, you will work in groups of 4-5 students, on a topic of your choice, related to a policy problem in Hong Kong. All groups will submit their top three choices of topics to Professor Matus, who will have the final say on assigning topics (to having multiple groups on the same topic). We encourage you to think creatively about your topic – but also realistically. You want to give your group space for creativity and a fresh approach, but also make sure that you choose an area where there is information and data available to you. Also, you should not choose a topic that we have covered in class (Lantau/housing, lead, FIFA).

Background:

The Hong Kong Policy Innovation and Coordination Office (PICO) is soliciting experts around Hong Kong for submissions for a policy strategy and vision exercise: Post-Covid Hong Kong: Growing Stronger.

As such, your group of expert consultants has been asked to develop a proposal for PICO, which will focus on one key element of policy for Hong Kong. While the exact topic is open to you, there are several elements that are required for each proposal (they do not need to be in this order – these are to help you frame and develop your proposal):

1. What is your vision and goal(s) for Hong Kong? What will success look like, and over what time frame(s)? (What should Hong Kong strive for in its post-Covid future generally, and for your problem area specifically?)
2. What is the particular problem (or opportunity) that you are addressing in your proposal?
3. What are the key indicators required to measure progress? What targets would you propose?
4. What policy interventions would you suggest to meet these targets? What are other potential alternative? How will you judge between them to choose what course of action is best?
5. What resources are required? What actors should be involved? What are potential stakeholder issues?
6. What challenges do you expect? How will your proposed course of action be designed to be adaptive to uncertainty and changing contexts?
7. How will you design evaluation of your proposed policy once it is implemented?

PICO is particularly interested in your input because of your background in policy analysis. Make sure that your proposal is grounded in data and specifics (not just general ideas and lofty goals). You will be expected to integrate key analytical concepts from the course (ie. Bardach, evaluation, stakeholder analysis).

Assignment Requirements:

Presentation:

Presentations will be uploaded onto Canvas by **December 11th**. They should be no more than 10 minutes long. Not every person in the group needs to speak. You may want to provide handouts to accompany your presentation (via upload), especially if you have any detailed slides that it would be helpful for the audience to see on paper.

Written Report:

Written reports will be due on **December 16th at 11:59pm**. You only need to upload one copy of the report per group.

The report should cover the same topics as the presentation, and be approximately 2000-2500 words (8-10 pages of double-spaced text). Graphics, charts, tables, and citations do not count towards the word count. Remember, this is a proposal. It should be clearly written for an interested, educated (though not necessarily as expert as you), professional audience. It should also be something that is compelling for a busy policy maker to read- in other words, make it look good. Well-designed charts, tables, and visuals can be very valuable tools for conveying information in a proposal.

Peer Evaluation and Reflection: Due December 16th

This is an individual assignment

Peer Review

We know that group work can sometimes be challenging, and work does not always end up equally divided. For this reason, each of you will be allocated points that you can then distribute among your group members (not including yourself) as you see fit. Those in a four person group will have 15 points to allocate to those in a five person group will have 20 points.

So, for example, let's say that 'Tina' is in a five person group with Students A, B, C, and D. Tina was lucky, and everyone in her group contributed nearly equally to the project. So Tina decides to allocate her 20 points in the following way: A- 5pts, B- 5 pts, C- 5 pts, and D- 5 pts.

On the other hand, if Student A did a bunch of extra work, Tina could decide to give her extra points, with an allocation like A – 8 pts, B – 4 pts, C- 4 pts, D- 4pts. (Or if someone did very little, Tina could dock some points).

At the end of this exercise, we will take the total points allocated, sum them for each student, and use them to calculate the 'peer evaluation' score for the final part of the grade. The goal of this exercise is to allow you to indicate those students who went above and beyond (or who were free riding). But the differences will be relatively minor (think almost all students, as long as they participate in some way, will have between 3.5 and 5 points out of the total, and most will be 4+).

If you are having a major problem with a group member not contributing, please contact Prof. Matus or Rachel, sooner rather than later. That way we can work with your group to come to a resolution

of any problems. For example, sometimes there are reasons, such as personal or medical issues, that may impact a student that they don't want to discuss with the group.

Reflection

Finally, we would like you to write your own, short (1-2 page) reflection on the project, and how it reflects the concepts and skills that we learned in class. You should discuss the challenges you faced in the project, what your particular role was, how you used key concepts and skills, and finally, what you think are the most important or interesting insights from your project.