**APSS1BN18 From Gloom to Bloom: Global New Urbanism**

with English Writing Requirements

Wai Chi Rodney CHU

[First / ~~Revised~~] Draft Submission:

Draft 1

**Word count: 707 words**

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**APSS1BN18 From Gloom to Bloom: Global New Urbanism**

Field Trip Report, Draft 1

*Use this checklist* ***before*** *submitting your draft to ensure that it meets all the requirements. If you are missing any of the required elements, revise the draft. Submit the completed checklist (as part of the assignment cover) together with your draft.*

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| --- | --- |
|  | **The first draft** |
|  | ~~is 700 words long~~ |
|  | ~~uses headings and subheadings~~ |
|  | ~~may contain in-text citations (if other reliable sources are used)~~ |
|  | ~~may contain a list of references~~ |
|  |  |
|  | **The body paragraphs** |
|  | Theoretical Recapitulation  ~~discuss the ideas from the main references to be adopted in this report essay~~ |
|  | ~~illustrate your own articulation of meaning of sustainable development in the context of Hong Kong~~ |
|  | ~~each starts with a topic sentence~~  ~~contain sources as part of your evidence~~  ~~contain explanations and examples to support the topic sentences~~ |
|  |  |
|  | **Referencing** |
|  | ~~Have you used a wide range of quality sources?~~ |
|  | ~~Does your end-of-text reference list match your in-text citations?~~ |
|  | ~~Have you followed the APA 7~~~~th~~ ~~ed. referencing style consistently?~~ |

**Note:** In this course, you are advised to use the APA 7th ed. referencing style. Please refer to the APA **Note:** 7th ed. referencing guide at: <https://www.polyu.edu.hk/elc/independent-learning/language-resources/apa/>

Start your draft here:

**Draft 1**

**Growth of Humanity**

Humanity has significantly progressed through the years. We have advanced from being hunters and gatherers; to the neolithic period– marked by the development of agriculture, animal domestication and formation of small settlements; to the division of work amongst people; to the emergence of cities; to the current social evolution that majorly concerns industrialization. We may view the recent development from four perspectives-- political, economic, social, and cultural. Politically, we notice that humanity now runs under the control of political power within defined geographical borders with complex systems of working. Economically, capitalism has been rising rapidly with the increase of large-scale production of products and possession of private property. In terms of social development, we have come to classify people into new classes from what we did previously. Culturally, we no longer view the world from a traditional view but rather from a materialistic and rational point of view.

**Gidden’s analysis**

Although such progress seems impressive, life for people seems to have gotten more repetitive. Through education, we know the negative implications of certain innovations we use in our day-to-day lives. However, regardless of this knowledge, we do not take measures to combat this owing to how essential these things have become in our lives. This may have serious effects on the future generations of humanity. Gidden’s analysis explains this concept.

* **Dynamism of Modernity**

The dynamism of modernity has multiple sources leading to its acceleration. The development of technology has been so massive that we now can interconnect with people located thousands of miles away as though they were in the same room as us. We are no longer bound to a territorial boundary for communication. Additionally, we have been more comfortable with interacting with strangers and trusting people we do not know personally. This faceless commitment we have adopted may be because we do not find the situation to be unstable or unsafe until we gain knowledge of it fully. The risk that comes with such pre-given trust is found to be acceptable. Furthermore, humanity’s beliefs in social customs are regularly questioned and examined with the influx of modern education.

Capitalism, industrialism, surveillance, and control of means of violence have also significantly facilitated the dynamism of modernity. Globalization– that refers to the linking of distant places in such a way that events occurring in one location are influenced by events occurring in another far away location– can be described with nation-state system, world military order, the international division of labor, and world capitalist economy.

* **Risks and Utopian Realism**

We have a lot of remote dangers that we could consider to be ‘low-probability high-consequence risks’. Although these are low-probability, we may minimize the damages but we cannot completely correct the damage caused. A few possible reactions to such risks could be Pragmatic acceptance, Sustained optimism, Cynical pessimism, and Radical engagement. Gidden suggests that the last category leads the most social movements in our current era. ‘Utopian Realism’ is an idealistic version of our future. We could work towards achieving this by focusing on the United Nations Sustainable development goals.

**Sustainable Development in Hong Kong**

Hong Kong, although highly developed, has yet to fully grow into a sustainable environment. This may be due to the unwillingness of people to deviate from the current lifestyle we maintain and hesitation when it comes to switching to sustainable means. For example, although Hong Kong is planned  to promote safety and convenience, Cho and Wang (2022) suggest that children below the poverty line still deal with food security issues, confined living spaces, and lack of appropriate necessities. Furthermore, the pandemic has tremendously affected the people of this category on the socioeconomic scale. Society may tend to focus on advancing the “wants” rather than the “needs” of our generation which results in such difficulties for those who do not have access to their needs.

However, Hong Kong is taking measures to build a sustainably developed habitat. Wai et al noted that the HKSAR is planning to re-develop older territories of Hong Kong. To further aid the condition of Hong Kong, ideologies of ecological modernization could be adopted. This refers to the working of both the market and state to tackle issues and protect our environment. With such a framework, we will be able to progress towards ‘Utopian Realism’.

References:

Cho, E. Y.-N., & Wong, V. C. W. (2022). Children’s Lived Experiences in Poverty in Hong Kong as a High-Income Asian Society. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, *19*(10), 6190–. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19106190>

Wai Chung Lai, L., Wing Chau, K., Chi Wing Ho, D., & Lorne, F. T. (2006). A “Hong Kong” model of sustainable development. *Property Management*, *24*(3), 251–271. https://doi.org/10.1108/02637470610660147