GCAP 3056: Taking a Stand

Turning Research Insights into Policy Recommendations

Fall 2024

3 Contributors

Week 4

▼ WhatsApp group

GCAP Fall 2024
WhatsApp group

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GCAP 3056: Taking a Stand

Turning Research Insights into Policy Recommendations

Fall 2025

🌐 **by Dr. Simon Wang**

▶ WhatsApp group (to be updated)

Digital co-teacher

AI on-boarding

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GCAP 3056: Taking a Stand

Turning Research Insights into Policy Recommendations Fall 2024 WhatsApp group

Assessment: Argumentative Research Paper

- Weighting: **25%**
- **Group work**; each group member should write reflective learning journal entries (while talking to learning buddy chatbots) when working on this assignment
- This document will be sent to **the Legislative Council**, uploaded to its website and circulated among panel members of a relevant panel or committee as part of the **community engagement efforts**
- word count: **500-800 words per member**
- **using Gen AI customized chatbots** is expected; the experience should be documented in the reflective learning journal
- The paper should be based on a project that has been done by students in the past semesters with **SCMP letter publications** or a new project approved by the teacher

▼ **Overall framework of the ARP**

1. **Background Information:**
   - Provide a detailed description of the context, connecting the issue to the ongoing conversations about policies and public affairs for Hong Kong
   - Explain the relevance of the issue to both Hong Kong and potentially broader contexts.

2. **Identification of the Problem:**
   - Clearly define the problem that needs addressing.
   - Discuss its implications on the community, government, and other relevant stakeholders.

3. **Information Gathering:**
   - Compile information from publicly available sources to establish a baseline understanding of the issue.
   - Actively request and incorporate information from government sources to provide a comprehensive view of current efforts and policies.

4. **Critical Review of Existing Solutions:**
   - Analyze existing government policies and community efforts.
   - Evaluate their effectiveness, shortcomings, and the gap between intended and actual outcomes.

5. **Incorporation of Scholarly Insights: (optional)**
   - Although optional, integrating academic research can provide depth, backing up the problem identification and critique of existing solutions with empirical evidence and theoretical frameworks.
   - Highlight any relevant models or theories that could inform better practices.

6. **Argument for Government Action (Recommendations):**
   - Based on the gathered information and critical analysis, propose well-founded solutions or enhancements to existing policies.
   - Justify why these actions are expected to be effective, feasible, and sustainable.

7. **Call to Action:**
   - Develop a persuasive call for action directed at both the government and the public.
   - Suggest concrete steps or campaigns that can mobilize public support and pressure the government to implement the recommendations.

8. **Follow-up Actions: (refer to the Community Engagement Portfolio)**
   - Beyond writing for the South China Morning Post (SCMP), consider other avenues to maintain pressure and visibility, such as:
     - Organizing public forums or webinars with stakeholders to discuss the findings and recommendations.
     - Engaging in social media campaigns to gather public support and share information widely.
     - Collaborating with NGOs to create advocacy campaigns or provide platforms for further dissemination and discussion.
     - Preparing a series of follow-up reports or briefs to update stakeholders on progress and responses from the government.

Tentative timeline

Draft: by the end of **week 9** (4 Nov)

Final version: by the end of **week 11** (18 Nov)

Made with GAMMA

Assessment: Community Engagement Portfolio

- Weighting: **40%**

- **Group work**; each group member should write reflective learning journal entries (while talking to learning buddy chatbots) when working on this assignment

- This portfolio will be shared via **LinkedIn to showcase the accomplishments of students** taking the course and to **create pressure** for the government to take action

- word count: **about 1000 - 1500 words per member** (or multimodal text equivalent)

- **using Gen AI customized chatbots** is expected; the experience should be documented in the reflective learning journal

- The portfolio should be based on a project that has been done by students in the past semesters with

[N] Simon's Notion on Notion

(Database) SCMP letters | Notion

https://padlet.com/simonwanghkbu/scmpletters SCMP letter features

- or a new project approved by the teacher

▼ **Overall framework of the community engagement portfolio**

1. Evidence of requesting information from and engaging with the government and/or community leaders/members

2. Evidence of writing for the public, e.g. newspaper articles, government reports or social media posts

3. An infographic or a video clip making the argument

Tentative timeline

Draft: by the end of **week 10** (11 Nov)

Final version: by the end of **week 12** (25 Nov)

Assessment: Reflective Learning Journal

- Weighting: **35%**

- **Individual work**

- word count: about **5-7 entries**; each entry about **300 words** (including chat history links)

- collaboratively written by students and Gen AI chatbots

  - **Chatbot: GCAPdiscuss4students**

Tentative timeline

Review of the first 2 entries: **week 6** (10 Oct)

Review of entry no. 3-4: **week 10** (7 Nov)

Curation and review of all entries: **The end of the semester** (2 Dec)

Three ongoing projects

Shatin Plaza alarm

Heung Yuen Wai checkpoint

Passing checkpoints without fingerprint scanning

Shatin Plaza alarm

Shatin Plaza

Reply from the security company

Reply from the police

What could be the next steps?

[chat history](.)

[private chat link](.)

Heung Yuen Wai checkpoint

Heung Yuen Wai checkpoint

Enquiry and reply

▼ initial enquiry 23 Sept 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my concern over the growing number of HK residents especially seniors who use Heung Yuen Wai checkpoint due to the low cost of transportation.

Please kindly provide the latest figures about the usage of the checkpoint and the no of passengers taking buses there to help review the situation. Please also review the capacity of checkpoints of both sides. My request of information is not precise at this time but I hope we can get the conversation started among me as a concerned citizen , Immigration Department and Transport Department. I also copy this email to HK police force and invite the force to assess the safety conditions of the checkpoint.

Thanks in advance for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Simon Wang

▼ Communicate with GDTEO

Dear Dr Wang,

I refer to your email dated 24.9.2024 please. As far as we understand, the relevant bureaux/departments of HKSARG have established mechanism and maintained frequent contact with Shenzhen border checkpoints to ensure the smooth and efficient passenger traffic for all passengers. Noting that your request comes under this ambit, we trust that the matter will be taken care of accordingly. We will consider the appropriate follow up action, as deemed necessary, if our assistance is required. Thank you.

Regards,
Agnes Siu
DD(SZLU)

Dear Ms Siu

Referring to my email addressing Immigration Department and Transport Department, I'd like to bring your attention to this matter and invite you to contact the Shenzhen immigration control unit in charge of Liantang checkpoint to review the usage data. Since many of the passengers are elderly, I am sure you agree with me that we should take actions to protect their safety and well-beings.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Your sincerely

Simon WANG

▼ Communicate with TD

Dear Sir/Madam

Thanks for the reply.

- Please confirm the concerned buses route is CTB B7, CTB B8 and KMB B9

The TD team should know which bus and/or other public transportation routes are concerned.

1. An important data point to review is the percentage of passengers who enjoyed the HKD2 discounts for elderly; if it is higher than usual, maybe the team needs to consider if something needs to be done.
2. Another issue to consider is whether the bus companies have deployed more vehicles since the opening of the checkpoints and in what ways the deployment of these vehicles may impact the operations of the checkpoints on both sides.

Grateful if a specific team within TD could email me directly to discuss further and relevant info could be provided under the Code on Access to Information.

Cheers

Simon Wang

24/09/2024

Dear Simon,

Subject: Heung Yuen Wai checkpoint (Case Ref: 3-8422611410)

Thank you for your email to the Transport Department dated 23/09/2024 and 24/09/2024. Please note that the enquiries and complaints made to the e-mail box "tdenq@td.gov.hk", telephone hotline "2804 2600" and fax hotline "2804 2652" of Transport Department is received by 1823 of the Government.

For the issue(s) related to the no of passengers taking buses to Heung Yuen Wai Control Point, we have passed your correspondence to the relevant unit of the Transport Department for follow-up. You will be informed of the result once it is available.

Besides, to enable effective handling of your case, we should be grateful if you could provide the following information -

- Please confirm the concerned buses route is CTB B7, CTB B8 and KMB B9

As your email has also been sent/copied to the Immigration Department, Hong Kong Police Force and Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong, the Immigration Department, Hong Kong Police Force and Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong will follow up promptly upon receipt of your case.

If you have any questions about this reply, please contact us.

Best regards,
Jasmine Ng
Customer Service Officer
1823

Passing checkpoints without fingerprint scanning

▼ Initial enquiry (26 Sept)

doimm@immd.gov.hk

Dear Sir/Madam

 I noticed that fingerprint scanning is no longer required when using eChannel- at least for HKID card holders. Could you kindly update the relevant web page **https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/echannel_residents.html**?

Thanks

Simon Wang

Chat history

Private chat link

Made with GAMMA

Writing SCMP letters

Work arrangement during extreme weather

Responding to recently published letters