

Social Networks, Social Media and Social Change

社交網絡, 社交媒體&社會變革研究 (英文)

Introduction: purpose of course
Volunteer networks
Time/group commitment
Discussion in English
4 Presentations with ppt

contact information:
Dr. Douglas Jarvie
LAN 205
douglas@thu.edu.tw
mrjarvie@yahoo.com

Introduction: The purpose of this course is to use English resources and communication, along with sociological thought and social sciences methodology, to study social change (社會變革) through the development of social networks(社交網絡), volunteering(志願者), and non-profit organizations (非營利組織) in Taiwan and the world. The students will begin with some background reading in social networks(聯網), social capital (社會資本), volunteer theory (志願者理論), and other concepts that provide a foundation for sociological study of small groups and networking. After a theoretical and historical introduction, the course will be project-based (專題研習) in order to develop an understanding of the social processes in community involvement (社區參與). Students will complete two small-group projects (midterm and final) based on their research of community organizations (社區組織) such as non-profit organizations (非營利組織) or non-governmental organizations(非政府組織) and student/community clubs. In addition to studying community networks and using social media(社交媒體), students will also develop their English discussion and presentation skills by preparing media presentations to present to classmates as well as questions for discussion. On completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. understand the concepts of networking 聯網, community organization 社區組織, social media 社交媒體, social capital 社會資本, volunteerism 志願者理論 and social change 社會變革;
2. express their opinions to and exchange ideas about society with classmates and other speakers in English in an international context;
3. communicate ideas in English for discussion/debate/casual and formal presentation; and
4. navigate social media and community social networks to bring about social change.

2017 Course schedule

Week #	date	activity
1		course introduction
2		social networks and social media
3		exploring personal networks (small group discussion & class discussion)
4		Project 1 presentations and Q&A: presentation of personal network (social map)
5		creating networks; setting up random groups to create our own small networks
6		linking personal and created networks to social change (discussion)
7		created network kindness social projects
8		Project 2 presentations and Q&A: midterm presentations (created group report)
9		<i>(midterm week special class)</i>
10		introduction to volunteering with non-profit organizations
11		discussion of topic for project 3 (a non-profit or community organization)
12		Project 3 presentations and Q&A: Introduction to a non-profit organization (.org)
13		discussion and group assignments for project 4 social change projects
14		discussion time or project action time (project 4)

15	discussion time or project action time (project 4)
16	Project 4 presentations and Q&A: final presentations (project 4)
17	Project 4 presentations and Q&A: final presentations continued
18	<i>(finals week special class, 1/14 deadline for all e-mail comments)</i>

Student Groups: Most of our assignments will be done in groups. Students will be divided into groups based on interest and their own choice. Groups should have at least 2 people, but groups of 4 or 5 people are recommended. It's okay to be in the same group as your friends, but try to mix up, meet new people, and have new experiences with new friends in your groups. Ideally, groups will be different for each project.

Group leaders: **Everyone in the class should try to be a group leader at least once.** The leader is responsible for getting everyone's contact information and keeping them organized during the topic project. The leader does not have to lead the presentation, as the presentation should be a group effort.

Presentations: Presentations will be oral presentations in English and must include a powerpoint or similar presentation with lots of pictures. In fact, it's better to focus on the speaking aspect with just powerpoint for support. Every person in the group must speak and **no paper or reading** is allowed. The goal is to speak naturally, communicate useful information, and inspire people to pay attention.

Basic classroom rules:

- English only.** English will be the only language of communication in the classroom, both with the teacher and with other people in the class. Please use this valuable time to practice your English.
- No late assignments.** In order to be fair to all students and keep the semester schedule, no late homework will be accepted and there will be no make-up exams. If you are sick, your group can do the presentation without you, *and you can submit a report by e-mail.*
- NEW Attendance policy.** Absences are excused if a student is sick and informs the teacher by e-mail on or before the day of absence. If you have a school or family activity, the teacher must know at least 24 hours in advance of class. Students with perfect attendance will receive a higher participation grade, but students can make up these absences by doing extra action projects.
- No sleeping in the classroom at any time.** If a student falls asleep in class, he/she will have to leave and be counted absent. Also, students are not allowed to sleep in their desks during breaks.
- Computers are required.** All communication is through e-mail or social media. Students are required to join the Facebook group: 志願網絡社會研究 THU social network English study with Douglas.
- Mobile phones must be SILENT.** Turn off your mobile phones in all classes. If your electronic equipment makes a noise in class, you will be asked to leave and fail that day's assignment.
- Do not enter or leave the classroom when a classmate is speaking.** If you are late to class, please wait outside until the classmate is finished speaking. If you need to go to the bathroom or leave class early, do not leave while someone is speaking in class.
- Respect your classmates.** Learn each other's names, listen to their opinions and ideas, and respect their privacy. Everyone has a right to their own ideas, beliefs, passions, and interests, so please make sure that the Language in Action classroom remains a safe place for everyone.
- Failure to follow these rules will affect your course grade.**