

**Recent Books from Hong Kong (SAR) – December 2005**  
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**Anthropology**

Death, Dying and Bereavement : A Hong Kong Chinese Experience / Edited by Cecilia Lai Wan Chan and Amy Yin Man Chow  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2006  
xxv, 357 p. ; 23cm.  
Includes Index.  
962-209-787-1  
\$ 24.95

[Fear marks the boundary between the known and the unknown. Some Chinese people believe that talking about death will increase the likelihood of occurrence. Also, by talking about death, evil spirits will be attracted to haunt people. In facing death, individual response is inevitably moulded by the values, attitudes, and beliefs of one's culture. Despite the large Chinese emigrant population in major cities in the world, available material in English on death, dying and bereavement among Chinese people is scarce. As Hong Kong is a place where East meets West, most professionals working in the field of death, dying and bereavement adapt knowledge from the West to their practice with the Chinese population. The intention of this volume is to consolidate and disseminate valuable practical wisdom with professionals in the local and international communities who serve Chinese patients and their family members.]

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**Business**

Information Systems in Developing Countries : Theory and Practice / Edited by Robert M. Davison...(et al.)  
Hong Kong : City University of Hong Kong Press, c2005  
xxii, 289 p. ; 26 cm.  
962-937-110-3  
\$ 29.50

[The digital divide and the inequalities of the availability and deployment of information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) between developed and developing countries have long been a source of concern. Global institutions such as the United Nations, the international Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Bank, as well as regional and national level agencies, have set up task forces to investigate how ICTs can be enacted most effectively in developing countries.

How this shared vision should be put into practice is a complex undertaking, but it is already taking place. In this volume, we go beyond the theoretical, the polemical and the philosophical to consider practical issues as they are encountered by stakeholders in the developing country context. 15 authors teams explore key issues organized into four sections : (1) Theoretical Background and Culture; (2) Telecentres; (3) Applications; (4) Key Concepts with country Specific studies. Examples of these applications are also described in chapters about Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Fiji, India and Thailand.]

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The Confluence of Affluence : The Pearl River Delta Story / Compiled and Edited by Luisa Tam

Hong Kong : SCMP Book Publishing Limited, 2005

207 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.

962-17-8981-8

\$ 27.50

[The Confluence of Affluence : The Pearl River Delta Story explores a spectrum of issues concerning the future expansion and evolution of the booming Pearl River Delta and how its economic, infrastructural and social developments will impact the wider region. It examines opportunities and challenges for the PRD by taking a critical look at how the WTO, EU, regional alliances, inter-provincial and city partnerships, plus other important components, will interface to help spur further integration of the delta with the globalised economy.]

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Serving China's intermediate and Capital Goods Markets – A Hong Kong Perspective – July 2005

Hong Kong : Research Department, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, 2005

v, 31 p. ; 30 cm.

TDC Research

\$ 19.50

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## **Cinema Studies**

Hong Kong Connections : Transnational Imagination in Action Cinema / Edited by Meaghan Morris...(et al.)

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press & [Duke University Press, Durham], c2005

xvi, 343 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

1-932643-01-x

1. Adventure films – History and Criticism

2. Adventure films – China – Hong Kong – History and Criticism

\$ 25.00

[Since the 1960s, Hong Kong cinema has helped to shape one of the world's most popular cultural genres: action cinema. Hong Kong action films have proved popular over the decades with audiences worldwide, and they have seized the imaginations of filmmakers working in many different cultural traditions and styles. How do we account for this appeal, which changes as it crosses national borders? Hong Kong Connections brings leading film scholars together to explore the uptake of Hong Kong cinema in Japan, Korea, India, Australia, France and the US as well as its links with Taiwan, Singapore and the Chinese mainland. In the process, this collective study examines diverse cultural contexts for action cinema's popularity, and the problems involved in the transnational study of globally popular forms

suggesting that in order to grasp the history of Hong Kong action cinema's influence we need to bring out the differences as well as the links that constitute popularity.]

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## **Education**

Education reform and the quest for Excellence : The Hong Kong story / Edited by Lok Sang Ho...(et al.)

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005

x, 252 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

962-209-745-6

\$ 25.00

[This book investigates and analyses critical issues in education reform and discusses possible pitfalls in the current global drive to promote excellence. Instead of documenting the successes and frustrations encountered by education reformers in specific jurisdictions, this book aims to offer directions for education reformers, and sets out to be prescriptive rather than descriptive. While the cases covered here are focused on Hong Kong, they are no less useful in throwing light upon the direction of education reform all over the world. The first section of the volume, 'Conceptual Framework', provides the theoretical underpinnings for the design and implementation of education reform. The next two sections, 'Reform of Tertiary Education' and 'Experiments, Dilemmas, and Risks in Secondary Schools' look at reform at the tertiary and secondary levels in greater detail. The final section, 'Ideals vs. Reality: the Interplay of Diverse Interests and Diverse Perceptions', looks at the conflicting goals and perceptions of different 'stakeholders', with a concluding chapter that summarizes the main lessons to be learnt.

This book will be of interest to scholars, educators, parents, policymakers, politicians, and all who are concerned about our younger generation and their future.]

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For Each and Everyone : Catering for individual differences through learning studies / Edited by Lo Mun Ling...(et al.)

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005

xii, 176 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

962-209-757-x

\$ 15.95

[This book describes a three-year research project which built on students' learning experience, and addresses the issue of individual differences in mainstream primary schools in Hong Kong. The Learning Study model described in this volume presents a view of learning which stems from a humanistic interest, and stresses on the possible 'experiences' that the student has gone through in their learning process. This project went through cycles of action research in implementing, evaluating and modifying a lesson. A total of 29 Learning Studies were conducted and the results showed remarkable improvement in students' learning outcomes. Participant teachers also found the Learning Study model useful in their professional development.]

Language education in China : Policy and Experience from 1949 / Agnes S.L. Lam  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005  
xiv, 275 p. : ill. ; 23 cm.  
Includes Index.  
962-209-751-0  
\$ 24.95

[Language Education in China : Policy and Experience from 1949 is unprecedented as a comprehensive study of the multilingual circumstances in China. It tracks policy changes in the learning of Chinese, foreign languages and minority ethnic languages in China since the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. On the basis of survey and interview data, the experiences of different age cohorts of learners are presented as 'windows' to the realities of language education policy implementation over the last half century. The effects of political changes, language backgrounds and various motivations for learning, at both the national and individual levels, are vividly presented in this composite story of China and learners in China.]

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### **History**

Colonial Hong Kong and Modern China : Interaction and Reintegration / Edited by Lee Pui-Tak  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005  
xii, 295 p. ; 24 cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
962-209-720-0  
\$ 35.00

[The evolution of Hong Kong, as a British colony and now a Special Administrative Region at China's door step, has always been inextricably intertwined with the situation in China. This relationship is examined through various perspectives in this volume. There are new insights on such topics as Hong Kong's society and religion, the development of the New Territories, the influence of the Chinese elite, the role of the colony during critical times in China's history, and business interactions between the two trading partners. This collection should appeal to readers interested in the society, politics and economy of Hong Kong.]

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The Canton Trade : Life and Enterprise on the China Coast, 1700-1845 / Paul A. Van Dyke  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, [Published in conjunction with Instituto Cultural do Governo da R.A.E. de Macau], c2005  
xviii, 280 p. ; 23 cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
962-209-749-9  
\$ 45.00

[This study utilizes a wide range of new source materials to reconstruct the day-to-day operations of the port of Canton during the eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth centuries. Using a bottom-up approach, it provides a fresh look at the successes and failures of the trade by focusing on the practices and procedures rather than on the official policies and protocols. The narrative, however, reads like a story as the author unravels the daily lives of all the players from sampan operators, pilots, compradors and linguists, to country traders, supercargoes, Hong merchants and customs officials. New areas to studies of this kind are covered as well, such as

Armenians, junk traders and rice traders, all of whom played intricate roles in moving the commerce forward. The Canton Trade shows that contrary to popular belief, the trade was stable, predictable and secure, with many incentives built into the policies to encourage it to grow. The huge expansion of trade was, in fact, one of the factors that contributed to its collapse as the increase in revenues blinded government officials to the long-term deterioration of the lower administrative echelons. In the end, the system was toppled, but that happened mainly because it had already defeated itself.]

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In search of an Identity : The Politics of History as a school subject in Hong Kong, 1960s-2005 / Edward Vickers

Hong Kong : Comparative Education Research Centre, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong, c2005

xxii, 334 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

962-8093-38-x

\$ 32.00

[Contents :

Chapter 1 : Introduction

Chapter 2 : History, Politics and Education in Hong Kong

Chapter 3 : History, Culture and the Politics of Identity in Hong Kong

Chapter 4 : The History Curriculum from the 1960s to 1982

Chapter 5 : History in Crisis : 1982-1989

Chapter 6 : Curriculum Change in a climate of Uncertainty : 1989-1997

Chapter 7 : 1997-2002 : New Hong Kong – New History?

Chapter 8 : Conclusion

Afterword : Patriotism, Politics and the Teaching of Hong Kong's Past.]

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The Battle for Hong Kong 1941-1945 : Hostage to Fortune / Oliver Lindsay

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005

xiv, 272 p. ; 24 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

962-209-779-0

\$ 39.50

[In this remarkable new study, Oliver Lindsay and John R. Harris have provided the most thorough and searching enquiry into the debacle which led to over 12,000 British, Canadian, Indian and Chinese defenders surrendering Hong Kong on Christmas Day 1941. The authors have made use of a mass of unpublished official material – part of it drawn from the original war diaries which have never before been in the public domain.]

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Reluctant Heroes : Rickshaw Pullers in Hong Kong and Canton, 1874-1954 / Fung Chi Ming

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005

xx, 216 p. ; 24 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Studies Series

962-209-734-0

\$ 35.00

[Reluctant Heroes is a fascinating study of rickshaw pullers in Hong Kong and Canton. The author reconstructs the daily lives and social environments of rickshaw pullers, the majority of whom were emigrants who differed in the loyalties of dialect, place of origin and kinship. Low- skilled yet partially self-employed, rickshaw pullers relied on entrepreneurial flair, in addition to physical stamina, to tout for fares, thus bridging the culture of petty traders and physical laborers. In the volatile urban environment, they were subjected not just to patron-client problems, but also the directives and regulations of the state, and to interventions of the police, and the British colonial and Chinese authorities.]

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The Hong Kong Story

Hong Kong : SCMP Book Publishing Limited [South China Morning Post Publishers Ltd.], c2005

317 p. : ill. ; 30 cm.

962-17-8946-x

\$ 60.00

[Contents :

Part 1 : Travel and Leisure

Part 2 : History and Heritage

Part 3 : Housing and Environment

Part 4 : Health and Education

Part 5 : People who made a difference.]

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Heaven is high, the emperor far away : merchants and mandarins in old Canton / Valery M. Garrett.

New York : Oxford University Press, 2002.

xiii, 210 p.: ill. ; 27 cm.

Includes bibliography and index.

0-19-592744-3

\$ 75.00

This elegantly illustrated study of Guangzhou (Canton) overviews its history and discusses its longstanding and major role as trading post and international interchange. The first mosque in China was built there in 626CE by Arab traders and the only officially permitted trade with the West dates from the mid 18th century. Using many contemporary drawings and photographs the activities of the foreign factories, of missionaries and other foreigners are described and set into the context of China's history. An attractive and scholarly volume. With English/Pinyin and Cantonese/Pinyin glossary, bibliography and index.

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**Literature**

World Weavers : Globalization, Science Fiction, and the Cybernetic Revolution / Edited by Wong Kin Yuen...(et al.)

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005

xi, 307 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

962-209-722-7

\$ 22.95

[World Weavers is the first ever study on the relationship between globalization and science fiction. Scientific innovations provide citizens of different nations with a

unique common ground and the means to establish new connections with distant lands. This study attempts to investigate how our world has grown more and more interconnected not only due to technological advances, but also to a shared interest in those advances and to what they might lead to in the future. Science fiction has long been both literally and metaphorically linked to the emerging global village. It now takes on the task of exploring how the cybernetic revolution might transform the world and keep it one step ahead of the real world, despite ever-accelerating developments. As residents of a world that is undeniably globalized, science-fictional and virtual, it is incumbent on us to fully understand just how we came to live in such a world, and to envisage where this world may be heading next. World Weavers represents one small but significant step toward achieving such knowledge.]

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### **Performing Arts**

New Music in China and The C.C. Liu Collection at the University of Hong Kong /  
Edited and Compiled by Helen Woo  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, c2005  
xxiii, 363 p. ; 26 cm.  
Includes Index.  
University of Hong Kong Libraries Publications, No.20  
962-209-772-3  
\$ 39.50

[This publication is not a standard catalogue. Part A comprises five invited papers, each of which touches on a topic directly or indirectly related to the music of China in the twentieth century : Barbara Mittler provides a brief account of C.C. Liu's life and his researches; Helen Woo writes on the significance of the C.C. Liu Collection; Chan Hing-yan traces and criticizes some of the main trends of the modern Chinese Orchestra over the past 60 years; Yu Siu-wah anatomizes Sun Wenming's Liu Bo Qu, painstakingly going through every minute detail to demonstrate the musical logic of this seemingly humble masterpiece; and Harrison Ryker scrutinizes the issue of polytonality, a strategy seen by many Chinese composers in the last 50 years as a way to enhance "Chineseness" in their compositions, though Ryker, by and large, uses works of European composers to explicate his arguments. The inclusion of these articles will no doubt elevate the scholastic value of the current publication. Part B consists of the catalogue of library materials related to new music of China donated by Liu Ching-Chih to the University of Hong Kong.]

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### **Official Publications**

Social Data collected Via the General Household Survey : Special Topics Report No. 42 -Hong Kong residents working in the mainland of China  
Hong Kong : Census and Statistics Department, General Household Survey Section (1), 2005  
xi, 65 p. ; 30 cm.  
\$ 15.00

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## **Politics**

The July 1 Protest Rally : Interpreting a Historic Event / Edited by Joseph Y.S. Cheng  
Hong Kong : City University of Hong Kong Press, c2005

xiv, 603 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

962-937-113-8

\$ 35.00

[On 1 July 2003, more than half a million people took to the streets of Hong Kong to protest against the Article 23 legislation and to demand democracy. The events attracted much international media attention. The Hong Kong crisis became an important issue high on the agenda of the Chinese leadership.

An analysis of the protest rally and subsequent events will certainly be of interest to the general public in the territory as well as to the international community who is concerned with the developments of Hong Kong. The editor has lined up a team of top experts in the territory to discuss the pertinent issues, and their contributions constitute the first authoritative volume on the historic event. The academic experts involved will examine a broad range of subjects; and it is hoped that the readers will have a comprehensive understanding of the significant issues facing Hong Kong at this stage while examining the protest rally on 1 July 2003.

This volume will be of interest to university students and academic in public administration and political science. Media professionals interested in the current affairs in Hong Kong will also find it a handy source of reference.]

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## **Sociology**

One Couple Two cultures : 81 Western – Chinese couples talk about love and Marriages / Dan Waters

Hong Kong : MCM Creations, c2005

276 p. ; 22 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

988-97610-0-9

\$ 39.50

[One Couple Two Cultures highlights information provided by eighty-one Western – Chinese couples whose views on codes of conduct and lifestyles vary considerably. Whilst some believe that a successful marriage can depend as much on smelly gorgonzola cheese or fermented Shanghainese bean curd as on the actual compatibility of the spouses themselves, others believe a Western – Chinese marriage is no different, say, to a blond marrying a redhead. Still others hold that two sometimes antagonistic cultures add spice and an added dimension to marriage.]

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