

General Education Newsletter

March 2018 ISSUE 5

Welcome Message

Welcome to the the fifth issue of GE Newsletter.

The current 21-credit GE curriculum has been adopting since 2014. With the completion of BA English programme re-accreditation exercise in 2017, all HSMC students of undergraduate programmes have to take a GE foundation module, 4 GE modules in 4 clusters, and 2 GE elective modules. It aims to broaden the knowledge base of our students and nurture them as all-rounded persons.

To assure the quality of GE at HSMC, there was a comprehensive review of GE cluster learning outcomes and individual modules conducted by a Task Force under the Common Core Curriculum Committee in AY2016-2017. Undoubtedly, students are the main stakeholders of GE curriculum. We do treasure the views, comments, suggestions from our students. In this issue, we have invited some current students in different years of study and a graduate to share their experiences and recommendations for GE teaching and learning.

In addition, there is a report and publicity section showing the activities we organised in the first semester of AY2017-2018 and what activities we are going to organise in the second semester. With the support of various GE module coordinators, the number of enrollment for GE salons was very high. Ultimately, we do hope that these seminar-type activities can benefit our students from various programmes. In March and April 2018, there are two GE salons about plants and animals in Hong Kong and Japanese pressed flower arts (Oshibana).

Colleagues and students are welcome to join!



Dr. Victor Chan
Associate Director (Common Core Curriculum)
Centre for Teaching and Learning

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News

The GE Cluster Review Task Force has reviewed the intended learning outcomes (ILOs) of the four GE Clusters. The Task Force made recommendations on how to improve the GE modules and match the new ILOs. Now, GE offering Schools and Departments are working to improve the modules. It is expected that all GE Cluster modules will complete the module changes, which will take effects from 2018-19 Semester 1.

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New Intended Learning Outcomes

In the new intended learning outcomes of GE clusters, it is the first time to add keywords to highlight the characteristics of each cluster.

Cluster 1 - Humanities

Upon completion of modules in this academic cluster, students should be able to:

- (1) Examine the meanings and values of human phenomena;
- (2) Articulate the representations of humanities in various forms; and
- (3) Assess the changes and transformations of humanities traditions.

Keywords: appreciation, meaning, values

Cluster 2 - Social Science

Upon completion of modules in this academic cluster, students should be able to:

- (1) Examine human behaviors and decision-making processes;
- (2) Apply evidence-based social science approaches; and
- (3) Evaluate the social, political, economic, and cultural factors that influence social phenomenon.

Keywords: human behaviour, decision-making, social impact

Cluster 3 - Science and Technology

Upon completion of modules in this academic cluster, students should be able to:

- (1) Examine the meanings and significance of science and technology in human civilization by exploring its history, development, and impact;
- (2) Evaluate the connections between technologies and their social and/or humanistic implications in ancient and modern world; and
- (3) Develop a scientific mind set and methodology in dealing with humans' daily-life challenges.

Keywords: human civilization, social and/or humanistic implications, scientific method and mindset

Cluster 4 - Moral Reasoning

Upon completion of modules in this academic cluster, students should be able to:

- (1) Articulate various ethical theories in different moral traditions;
- (2) Reason contemporary ethical issues by assessing the argument of various ethical concepts and theories; and
- (3) Establish his/her own ethical stances.

Keywords: ethical theory, reasoning, contemporary issues

Students Corner

We have done some interviews with students about their opinion and experience of studying GE modules in the College. Let's listen to what they said.

- Q1. What did you learn in our GE lessons?
- Q2. How did the modules help you?
- Q3. What is your suggestion to improve the GE modules?

CG Yr2

Q1. We can learn something that we can't touch in secondary school life. It can also broaden our horizons on different perspectives, different areas and gain a different vision.

Q2. By conducting normal lectures, doing group projects and communicating with other classmates, we can have different ways or channels to learn more.

Q3. I wish to have more opportunities to attend some large-scale lectures. Teachers may also invite some professionals in different disciplines to conduct guest lecture. It will be great.

BBA Yr1

Q1. I gained more knowledge about different areas during GE lesson, such as humanity, social science, natural science and moral value.

Q2. Those lessons can help us to think out of boxes, as teachers taught that "When there's a will there's a way". Also it helps a lot in training our critical thinking, so we can make decision independently.

Q3. I wish the module could provide more field trips, in order to gain insight, improve our communication skills as well as social skills.

BBA 2016
graduate

Q1. I have learned something outside my major. In this 4-year university life, I spent most of the time to study finance and banking to be equipped as a professional in this field. However, there are still something important for me to know as an university student. For example, Critical Thinking emphasizes the training in logic; Hong Kong Society introduces our city in an academic way.

Q2. If the major study is to build my career path, GE learning is to broaden my horizon and ways of thinking. It enriches my study not just limiting in business field. Moreover, it helps to find out my interest. For instance, cultural studies arouses my interest to study a master degree in Japan.

Q3. I suggest to open more GE modules in different fields and also some advanced classes for students who would like to learn more.

BJC Yr3

Q1. I have learnt many interesting topics such as Psychology and Life, Ethics, Global Politics, Creative Thinking and Critical Thinking.

Q2. Students can freely deliver presentations through a variety of formats, such as role play, debate, drama or video clip, which are more interesting. Therefore we paid more attention in the class. We enjoyed the lessons very much.

Q3. If students are interested in the module, teacher could provide some related workshops during lessons in order to improve student's understanding on the subject. E.g. A workshop for tea painting when teaching Japanese Zen culture.

Thank you for your opinions!

3 Oct 2017

「How will virtual reality change our lives?」

Guest Speaker:
Mr. Philip Kong,
Chief Operating Officer of Virtual Reality Technology Holdings Limited and the Vice-President of 3Glasses



Souvenir Presentation



Mr. Philip Kong



SCM2201 Virtual Reality for Society



Students of different programmes participated in the event.

16 Nov 2017

「死後遺愛—器官捐贈與無言老師」

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Danny T.M. Chan, Neurosurgery
and
Mr. Pasu Ng, Dissecting Lab
Manager



Souvenir presentation by Residential College Master of Amity College, Dr. Ben Cheng



GEN3001 Life and Death
and
RC Amity College



Mr. Pasu Ng and Dr. Danny Chan answered questions during Q&A session.



Dr. Danny Chan

GE Salon in Semester 2

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20 March 2018 (Tuesday)

Topic: 從大自然尋找藝術創意: 由《尋花》到《尋□》

Guest Speaker: Ms. Ip Hiu-man, Human

Ip graduated from Department of Chinese, Lingnan University. Ip won the novel champion for Youth Literary Awards in open category. Apart from plant-related work, Ip is also a painter and writer, her painting and literary works have published in various newspapers and magazines. Published books included, picture book "To Say a Word of Love" and the short story collection "Kill the Bandits", and illustrations for the poetry works "Chinese Poems from Provence and Hong Kong Poetry". Ip loves the nature and enjoys nature writing in recent years. Related publications include "In Search of Flowers" and "In Search of Flowers 2" in 2014 and 2016.

2017-18 GE Salon 通識沙龍[◎]



**從大自然尋找藝術創意:
由《尋花》到《尋□》**

日期: 2018年3月20日(星期二)
時間: 下午12:00 - 1:00

地點: A314
ECA時數: 1小時

嘉賓講者: 葉凱文 (Ip Hiu-man, Human)
畢業於嶺南大學中文系, 曾獲青年文學獎小說公開組冠軍, 從事植物相關工作, 亦為畫家及寫作者, 繪畫及文字作品散見於報章及雜誌。

歡迎各學系同學參加, 請預先報名



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10 April 2018 (Tuesday)

Japanese Pressed Flower (Oshibana) Workshop

Instructor: Dr. Serina Ha Miu Yin

Dr. Serina Ha Miu Yin holds a PhD in Japanese Studies from School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Hong Kong. She is an accomplished Japanese Botanic Artist and a Pressed Flower and Flower and Le'crin Instructor for the Japan Fushigina Pressed Flower Association.

Her work was recognized at the 9th World Pressed Flower Craft Exhibition Goyang Korea 2015 and her art has been exhibited in Osaka and Tokyo and at the Philadelphia Flower Show in from 2015-2018. Dr Ha held an exhibition in HKU in March 2017 and received honorable Mention award at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 2017 and Best Art Award in Tokyo Licren Flower Competition in 2018.

She was invited as Guest Speaker of Royal Asiatic Shanghai and the first Artist to hold Japanese pressed flower workshop at House of Roosevelt at the Bunds Shanghai in March 2018.



We look forward to your participation!