Course Title	:	Capstone Project
Course Code	:	CUS4001
Recommended Study Year	:	Year 4
No. of Credits/ Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Individual supervision; small group meetings over the term
Class Contact Hours	:	2 hours per session (4 sessions throughout the term)
Category	:	Required course
Area of Concentration	:	Nil
Prerequisite(s)	:	Methods in Cultural Research II
Co-requisite(s)	:	Nil
Exclusion(s)	:	Only for Cultural Studies Majors
Exemption Requirements	:	Nil

Brief Course Description:

You are near the end of your studies at Lingnan University and you have a lot of ideas and concerns. The Capstone Project is your opportunity to learn how to integrate and put in action the skills and knowledge you have gained while at LU and, potentially, lead yourself into a successful career in the 'real world'. To put it in Cultural Studies terms, the Capstone Project is your chance to put the theories you have learnt back into the everyday.

Your Capstone may take many forms: a research project, a written dissertation, an internship, or a creative/media work (e.g. a film, a performance, an artwork installation, or a web design project). The Capstone Project intends to broaden your critical and creative perspectives. Through the different forms of the Capstone, you can explore knowledge beyond the university, and learn to work individually or collaboratively with your peers (depending on the nature of your project), with appropriate faculty supervision. Regardless of the form of Capstone Project you choose, you will have to formulate a significant question, engage in creative exploration or research to find answers, and refine your communication skills to express the relevance of your experience to others in your circles/communities. The Capstone Project is student-centered. It requires you to take responsibility and ownership for your own experience. Although you will be assisted by a faculty supervisor, what you make of the project is entirely up to you. Overall, the Capstone is an opportunity to challenge yourself to think/work through and beyond what you have learnt and to help you get ready for life after university. All Capstone Projects should contain an element of public engagement.

Aims:

- To provide students with the opportunity to integrate and apply knowledge, skills and experiential learning in real world, 'lifelike', situations/contexts and in projects that could impact upon the general public;
- To encourage students to actively think about cultural problems and how they can intervene and take action;
- To help students refine their reflective and communicative skills prior to their entrance into the professional or postgraduate worlds.

Learning Outcomes (LO):
By the end of the course, students shall be able:

1. to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of Cultural Studies perspectives and methodologies;
2. to analyse the topic of their study, their experience during internship, or the implications of their creative/media work, in critical and reflective ways;
3. to articulate their learning experience as a written paper (e.g. reflective essay, research paper, exegesis, or critical report);
4. and to communicate the outcomes and relevance of the Capstone Project to a public audience (e.g. digital archiving, blog-writing, publishing short articles, presenting an exhibition, etc.).

Through the learning process, students will be expected to:
a. discuss and communicate with supervisors on matters related to the project;
b. reflect on and learn from their own Capstone Project;
c. meet challenges intellectually and creatively;
d. make judgments and adjustments independently;
e. and learn to monitor their own progress.

Indicative Contents:
1. Practical workshops to develop different forms of Capstone Projects
2. Review of research methods in cultural research.

Teaching Method:

1. Small workshop meetings
2. Project-based supervision (by appointment)

Measurement of Learning Outcomes (LO):
Learning outcomes will be measured through the planning, implementation, experiential processes and research skills demonstrated, as follows:

1. Project Proposal (LO1 & 4)
2. Written component (L01, 2, 3 & 4)
3. Capstone Process (a to e)
4. Capstone Project (finalised – LO1, 2 & 4)

Assessment:
Continuous Assessment 100%
All Capstone Projects involve a written component. This can be in the form of a reflective essay, research paper, or critical report. The supervisor has to complete a final report assessing both the knowledge and skills invested in the project and the degree of

success in the learning process. The final grade is based on an integrated assessment of all the aspects mentioned above.

Required Readings:

Gray, Ann. *Research practice for cultural studies: Ethnographic methods and lived cultures*. Sage, 2002

Pickering, Michael, ed. *Research methods for cultural studies*. Edinburgh University Press, 2008.

Becker, Howard S. *Telling about society*. University of Chicago Press, 2007.

Turner, Victor Witter, Edward M. Bruner, and Clifford Geertz. *The anthropology of experience*. University of Illinois Press, 1986.

Important Notes:
1. Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 2 hours of class contact and 7 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
2. Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is "the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or evenfootnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student's own work".Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
3. Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
4. To enhance students' understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course "Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness" is available on https://pla.ln.edu.hk/.