

Course Title	:	Internship*
Course Code	:	CUS4299
Recommended Study Year	:	3-4
No. of Credits/ Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Summer internship placement and class lessons
Contact hours	:	38 in-class contact hours, plus work hours at a partner institution (number of hours varies depending on requirements of different partner institutions)
Category in Major Programme	:	Required for Area of Concentration / Elective
Prerequisite(s)	:	CUS Major
Co-requisite(s)	:	N.A.
Exclusion(s)	:	N.A.
Exemption Requirement(s)	:	N.A.

Brief Course Description

This elective course aims at enriching students' outside classroom learning as part of the 'whole person education', which is an integral part of the outcome based learning policy. Students will be encouraged to integrate theory with practice, by applying cultural studies theories to the critical reflection of the issues related to the work of the partner organization. This is especially crucial in the exposure and grasping of key debates surrounding issues concerning media and cultural organizations, as the theoretical and practical elements in these sectors are very much embedded in the actual work at the site. It also equips students with specific skills required of these cultural organizations, including research skills. It provides a vocational dimension, where students will be inspired of a prospective career path.

This course involves students in working for selected cultural organizations in Hong Kong and overseas. The cultural organizations may vary from year to year, but they focus in areas such as media, community and performing arts/ arts organizations. Students registered for the course will attend workshops and then assigned to specific internship posts according to their interests and potentials. During the summer, they will perform tasks required by the partner organization (which will act as their employer during the internship), and learn about specific skills through on-job training. They will be assessed by the partner organizations as well as course instructors based on their mastery of the skills and overall performance. At the end of the internship, students will be required to submit a written essay.

*This course will cease to be offered to the 2019/2020 intake and after. However, they will continue to be offered to BACS students before the 2019-2020 intake.

Objectives

- i) to encourage students to put theory into practice, apply cultural studies theories through critical reflection of the nature and issues arisen from the internship, possibly through problem solving;
- ii) to help students gain better knowledge of the nature of, and skills (including research skills) specific to ‘cultural work’, by exposing students to real life situation and on-job training in cultural organizations;
- iii) to develop students’ necessary work and professional ethos to prepare them for a career in cultural work, and to cope with the challenges of diversified work types in a globalized environment

Indicative Content

- i) Historical perspective and contemporary situation in the media, performing arts, arts and community service sector;
- ii) Relevant cultural studies concepts such as power, ideology, representations, and focuses such as cultural policy, gender and cultural politics, globalization;
- iii) Research methodologies such as web search, archiving, interviewing, participant observation;
- iv) Work related ethos and values, including professional attitude, punctuality, social skills, sense of responsibility

Teaching Methods

1. Pre-internship workshops and drills in a two-part seminar (8 hours)
2. On-site training and learning through apprenticeship (min. 8 hours/ week over 6-8 weeks)
3. Guided supervision during the course of the internship, through regular in-class contact hours with course instructors, and through meetings with institution supervisors (30 hours)

Learning Outcomes

- i) that students apply cultural studies concerns and concepts to understand the critical issues and problems stemming from the partner organization;
- ii) that students are able to critically analyze their learning process, articulate their learning experience and findings, and suggest ways of self-development in the future;
- iii) that students master professional skills through the internship work (such as news and magazine writing, film and video production, events organization, office administration) and that students demonstrate mature work and professional attitude particular to cultural work (such as sense of responsibility, gender and cultural sensitivity, community building, teamwork practice, interpersonal communication)

and building alliances across communities).

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

- i) students identify and analyze the history, nature and problems of partner organizations; apply cultural studies concepts to the internship experience as well as issues and problems related to the organizations in the written essay;
- ii) students demonstrate continuous critical reflection and learning through entries in their diary/ journal and written report;
- iii) students' successful mastery of skills and necessary professional and work attitude learnt from the internship assessed by the partner organizations' evaluation report.

Assessment

Interns' Performance (to be assessed by Course Instructor and Partners)	40%
Diary/ Journal	30%
Written Essay	30%

Readings

Required Readings:

- Baird, Brian N. (2005). *The internship, practicum, and field placement handbook : a guide for the helping professions*. Upper Saddle River, N.J. : Pearson Prentice Hall.
- Schon, Donald A. (1995). *The reflective practitioner : how professionals think in action*. Aldershot, Hants, England : Arena.

Secondary Readings:

- Angharad N. Valdivia (2006). *A companion to media studies*. Malden, MA : Blackwell
- Argyris, Christ.(1999). *On organization learning*. Malden, Mass: Blackwell Business.
- Bennett, Tony (1988). *Culture: a Reformer's Science*. St. Leonards, NSW : Allen & Unwin.
- hooks, bell (1996). *Yearning : race, gender, and cultural politics*, Boston, Mass. : South End Press, c1990.
- Glenn Jordan and Chris Weedon (1995). *Cultural politics : class, gender, race and the postmodern world*, Oxford, UK ; Cambridge, Mass. : Blackwell Publishers.
- Schechner, Richard (2002). *Performance studies : an introduction*, London ; New York : Routledge.
- White, Mimi and James Schwoch (2006). *Questions of method in cultural studies*, Malden, MA ; Oxford : Blackwell Pub., 2006.

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 even footnotes/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/>.