

Joint Humanitarian Entrepreneurship Summer Academy 2019

About the Program:

Most learning in universities takes place in isolation, students are offered courses and there are outreach programs which try to work with communities. Considering an apparent lack of a crossover between a structured course and student-community interaction; Office of service learning and Lingnan entrepreneurship initiative at Lingnan University, Hong Kong initiated the first joint humanitarian entrepreneurship summer academy in 2018.

The first edition of the summer academy was organized by Lingnan University in partnership with Beijing Normal University (Beijing), Xihua University (Chengdu) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The program had a two-week intensive course work with case studies, a comprehensive overview on the sustainable developmental goals and how to achieve them at a local/regional context. This was followed by a two-week field research aided by mentors who were experts in their field. The mentors directed the students in their understanding and implementation of ideas.

This is in line with the United Nations (UN), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) laid out by in 2015. SDGs are the common objectives of many countries and their success rely heavily on the cooperation between these different nations. To contribute in achieving these goals, we have decided to work with different stake holders to create this summer academy in the hope of increasing youth awareness and understanding of sustainable development and humanitarian work.

In the summer academy, with SDGs as the topic and One Belt One Road as the emphasis, students will communicate, do field research, and propose innovative solutions and strategies concerning the topic. To assist students in having a deeper understanding of the SDGs and humanitarian work, we hope to collaborate with NGOs. Through careful consideration; the participants can propose new solutions to the challenges concerning the SDGs. We will focus on 5 SDGs which is of considerable interest to the participating countries/institutions. In the 2018 summer program we focused on No Poverty (No.1 SDG), Good Health & Wellbeing (No.3 SDG), Sustainable Cities and Communities (No.11 SDG), Responsible Consumptions and Production (NO. 12 SDG) and Partnerships for the Goals (NO. 17 SDG).

The classes will help students develop better research skills, apply the theory they have learnt and knowledge they have acquired to practical scenarios. In the first two weeks, students will be learning about the SDGs and their evolution, design thinking, social entrepreneurship, model project and policy proposals from around the world which they can get inspired from and submit a research paper based on what they have learned. In the final two weeks, they will have the opportunity to do field research in Kazakhstan and

apply their newly acquired knowledge. The students will have to work in groups of 5/6 to work on a specific issue under the SDGs and present their findings in the form of a group deliverable, which will be followed by a final presentation during the closing ceremony. The deliverable can be in the form of a policy proposal, a prototype product, a mobile app, a sustainable long-term program or any other sustainable services.

Each group will have an expert in the field related to their SDGs mentoring them. Through this type of group work, students will learn how to cooperate better and nurture their interpersonal skills, gain insights into diverse perspectives from around the world, and have a deeper understanding of the unique ways problem are tackled in different cultures.

Credit: 6 from two 3 credit courses (one from Lingnan University and one from Al-Farabi Kazak National University).

Hands-on training:



Arduino



3D-printing



Autonomous
devices



Under-water
robotics



Solar panel



Inverter and
battery

Objectives:

- To introduce SDGs and associated challenges
- To provide a comprehensive understanding of the belt and road initiative
- To introduce design thinking as a tool to understanding and working on social and economic issues
- To promote multicultural interaction
- To introduce students to academic research skills, writing and presentation
- To expose students to real world problems and help them participate in creating solutions

Expected learning outcomes:

- Understand SDGs, their importance and critical understanding of one SDG of interest
- Learn data driven community research experience
- Improve student's problem-solving, project planning and interpersonal skills
- Ability to write a cohesive research article

Hours:

- *Component 1:* Approximately, 54 hours of the lectures and workshops on SDGs and their evolution, design thinking, social entrepreneurship, model projects and policy proposals and scientific writing. Cultural Learning- Intercultural programs, Cultural site visits and lectures with discussions
- *Component 2:* Approximately, 20 hours team building and social events.
- *Component 3:* Approximately, 60 hours of field work, individual and group paper preparation.

Important Dates:

Application and nomination closes: 31st January 2019

Announcement of results: 20th February 2019

Registration fee due date: 28th February 2019

Program in Hong Kong: 2nd – 15th June 2019

Program in Almaty, Kazakhstan: 16th – 29th June 2019

Before the program:

- Students are expected to complete the pre-course questionnaire

During the program:

Students are expected to-

- Complete an individual assignment
- Participate in group activities
- Work with a team and work on a deliverable focused on an SDG.

At the end of the program:

- Student teams are expected to make a group presentation of their deliverable
- Students are expected to complete end of course questionnaire

Program fee for LINGNAN STUDENTS:

For Lingnan students there is no **program fee but a refundable deposit** of 300USD (~2350 HKD) which will be returned on successful completion of the program. The University will also cover the return tickets for Lingnan students from Hong Kong to Almaty, Kazakhstan. Lingnan University students will be required to stay with the other participants in the hostel during the timeframe of the summer academy in Hong Kong.

Program fee for NON-LINGNAN STUDENTS:

Program registration fee: 300 USD (This will cover accommodation and local transportation during the program)

The students will have to cover their own travel expenses, insurance and VISA applications (the students will have to apply for student visa for Hong Kong and Kazakhstan and we will provide all essential support with the process).

Registration link for Lingnan students:

[Click here](#)



Registration link for Non-Lingnan students:

[Click here](#)



Partner University Nominations:

Please send the list of nominations to Ms. Gabrielle Chan gabriellechan@ln.edu.hk with the required details below:

Full Name:

Course enrolled:

Year of study:

Email id: