

Enhancing Learning through Other Learning Experience (OLE)

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Enhancing Learning through Other Learning Experience (OLE) was developed to equip our BEd students to organise out-of-classroom learning activities in local schools. The course was divided into two phases. In phase 1, students attend a lecture series (13 hours) on the strategies, skills and risk assessments necessary to organise out-of-classroom learning activities. Frontline teachers, such as school heads and OLE teachers, share their experiences in implementation and assessment. Students then review methods of organising OLE activities in their own primary or secondary school.

The curriculum in phase 2 (26 hours) was developed by three departments: Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Department of Education Policy and Leadership and Department of Health and Physical Education. Students were allowed to choose only one Activity Execution Plan (AEP) offered in either Chinese or English as a medium of instruction as follows:

- Service-Learning for Students: Engaging with Diversity
- Design and Practice of Community Service in HK Primary and Secondary Schools
- Enhancing Student's Creativity through Drama
- Life Journey for Students
- HK Historical and Cultural Tour for Students
- Organising Athletic Meet in Schools
- Organising Sports Event in Schools
- Organising Poverty Education in Schools
- HK Historical and Cultural Tour for Students

Our students gained unique learning experiences in different forms of AEP. In Life Journey for Students, teachers invited different associations, such as the Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care (善寧會), Haven of Hope Christian Service (靈實協會) Leung Chun Woo Kee Co. Ltd (梁津煥記禮儀服務), to introduce different aspects of death education and counselling. Students also visited the Body Donation/ Dissection room of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) (香港中文大學無言老師/解剖室), and the Lai Kam Kee Stone Factory (賴金記石廠) among others.



▲ Dr Kelvin Wong, former principal of St. Paul's School (Lam Tin), shared his experience in organising OLE activities with students.

Students designed and implemented an OLE activity for primary or secondary students to suit their curriculum from the unique experience in their chosen AEP. For example, those who took Life Journey for Students gave a lesson on life and education for primary students. Some of our students led secondary students to interview the company that provides funeral services.

The feedback from our students was encouraging. They believed they could broaden their horizons in the AEP area. It also helped them to reflect, created positive life values and allowed them to work with different kinds of people. The skills and experience obtained from the course were essential in preparing our students to organise out-of-classroom activities in their future role as teachers.



▲ Visit to a funeral company.



▲ Guided tour to the Lo Pan Temple by Dr Billy Tang of the Society of Hong Kong History.

- ▼ A lesson on life and death education for primary school students.
- ▼ EdUHK students led secondary students on a visit to the Hong Kong Museum of Education.



Put Subject Knowledge into Service for Others - Co-curricular and Service Learning (CSL) Courses

Academic Planning and Development Committee

To foster students' whole person development, all undergraduate students are required to complete a compulsory three-credit-point (cp) Co-curricular and Service Learning (CSL) course before graduation. The CSL courses aim to achieve genuine mind-broadening and experience-based learning objectives to enhance students' learning experience beyond the traditional classroom-based curriculum

One key feature of the CSL courses is that direct service element (face to face/ person to person contacts) is included in each of these courses. Through the CSL course, students will not only have opportunities to practise subject-related knowledge, but also to develop various generic skills and competencies; for example, positive personality, positive work attitude, skills on cooperation and team work, interpersonal skills.

CSL Course Components

Classroom/lecture session



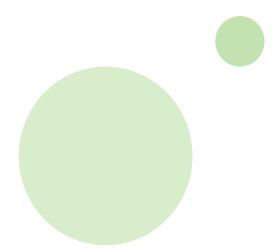
Out of classroom service-based learning activity



Reflection and group sharing session(s)

Students' comments on the CSL courses were collected at various focus group meetings for the Tracking Study on Student Learning Experience (conducted in January 2016) and Review of the Undergraduate Common Core Curriculum (conducted in October and November 2015).

In general, participating students considered the CSL courses effective and the courses provided them with non-traditional learning opportunities that benefited their whole person development.



Preparing Agents of Change - General Education (GE) Programmes

General Education Office

The GE Programmes are designed to prepare students to be active and reflective agents of change, by broadening their intellectual horizons, helping them make connections among different areas of knowledge, and reinforcing their capacity for sound thinking and good judgment. It offers a diverse yet balanced combination of individual courses across a range of subject areas and disciplines, set within an integrated structure of GE Foundation Course, GE Breadth Courses and GE Consolidation Courses.

Through a wide range of co-curricular, extra-curricular and experiential learning activities, (e.g. workshops, field-based inquiry, text-based inquiry, group/ individual presentations, experiments, values analysis), students can strengthen their knowledge/ concept bases, acquire higher-order thinking skills (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving) and foster positive

activities and characters conducive to their whole-person and all-round developments.

Quality assurance is an important issue in the development of General Education. Student and staff feedback is usually collected through formal and informal channels, such as SET, online surveys, staff-student consultative meetings and focus group interviews. All feedback and comments are recorded and analysed, and follow-up actions are taken for continuous quality enhancement.



Experiential Learning and Achievements Transcript

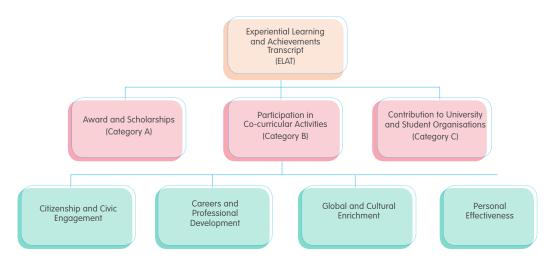
Leadership and Service Learning Section, Student Affairs Office

The Experiential Learning and Achievements Transcript (ELAT) serves as an official document that records and recognises the students' non-academic achievements, participation in non-formal learning activities and contributions to the University. It provides students with reference in planning for their university and building their portfolio for career development. The records also provide a basis for formulating policies in promoting non-formal learning in EdUHK.

As proclaimed in EdUHK's Strategic Plan 2016-2025, one of the University goals is to ensure that students undergo meaningful formal and non-formal learning experiences for whole person development. Students' level of participation in experiential learning activities reflects the effort the University has focused on whole person development. Under the ELAT system, experiential learning activities are grouped under four categories as shown in the figure below.



As the custodian of ELAT, the Student Affairs Office (SAO) is responsible for coordinating all units for data submission. Training and guidance are also provided by SAO to eligible users to improve accuracy of data submission.



▲ Structure of Experiential Learning and Achievements Transcript.



◀ A Sample of Experiential Learning and Achievements Transcript.



Learning through Living and Working with Others - Hall life

Hall Management Section, Student Affairs Office

Hall life education is an indispensable part of whole person development in higher education. The Education University of Hong Kong strives to create a holistic living-learning environment in student halls through provision of educational and experiential learning opportunities, residential facilities and management services in order for, self-actualization of potentials and formation of values for enhancement of personal and professional development of student residents could be achieved. To accomplish the vision, mission of hall life education is set out to enable student residents to:

- 1. Develop all-round personal capabilities and form positive character through a safe and supportive living-learning environment;
- 2. Foster inter personal, cross-disciplinary and cultural interaction to promote collegiate life among hall residents, alumni and the entire University within a hospitable and vibrant community; and
- 3. Groom leadership and encourage active engagement in student governance through a developmental environment.

i. Robert Black Hall Overseas Study Tour

By creating an inclusive and home-like living-learning community for student residents, Robert Black Hall (RBH) upholds the spirit of 'unity' where RBH-ers would be given abundant opportunities to be exposed to a learning-by-living environment, in which the unique RBH-style of hall life education is defined. RBH overseas study tour is an unprecedented hall life activity beyond the geographic boundaries of students' initiatives.

"My independence, self-learning and problem-solving skills are enhanced through participation in RBH overseas study tour. Promoting the spirit of mutual support network and development of the capabilities and readiness for crisis or ad hoc issues are essential attributes of teachers. I was motivated by the belief – 'Learning beyond the classroom', to participate in the organisation committee of the tour. Through the Day-PIC mechanism, different from being a participant/taker of an event, I learnt to be a giver; starting from scratch, I experienced not only the unity of RBH, but the respect in differences and strive for consensus."



▲ All the members participate in the preparation of the tour and serve as a Day-PIC (person-in-charge) during the tour.



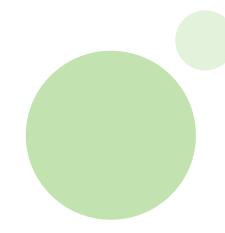
▲ The RBH Overseas Study Tour has been held for five years, and has visited various places, including Taiwan, Mainland China and Japan.



▲ Members can plan for what they want to learn in the tour. As shown in the picture, they were learning how to make and appreciate traditional Japanese tea.

ii. Northcote Hall Volunteer Team

Northcote Hall is renowned for its caring atmosphere; to the extent not only among NHall-er, but also among the local community through the formation of Volunteer Team. The Team has been organising and participating in numerous highly successful volunteer events and services, including fund raising event in partnership with the Food Angel, Hong Kong Young Woman's Christian Association Lung Cheung Integrated Social Service Center (YWCA ITLC), charity sales of homemade breakfast and handicraft, charity run and free haircut.



"As a NHall-er, I am so proud of being a part of the team in planning and organising the Annual Northcote Hall Performance. Over 70 NHall-ers joined this flagship fundraising event as helpers on and off the stage. Everybody played his/her part in accomplishing the common goal: to serve and care for the community and foster sense of belongings to NH. Besides donation of money to designated beneficiary (the YWCA ITLC in 2017), volunteer services are also provided by NHall-ers whereas a more in-depth understanding of the beneficiary could be developed."



▲ NH Volunteer Team enjoyed BBQ with children from disadvantaged family.



▲ Northcote Hall Performance.

Expanding Students' Life Experiences beyond Personal Boundary - EdUHK Mentorship Scheme

Career Development Team, Student Affairs Office & School Partnership and Field Experience Office

The EdUHK Mentorship Scheme 2016/17 is jointly organised by the Student Affairs Office and School Partnership and Field Experience Office. Through connection with experienced practitioners in society, students enhance their personal and professional development, which facilitate them to be outstanding and morally responsible educators and professionals. In total, 235 mentees (Year Two or above) and 138 mentors from education, business and non-profit sectors participated in this scheme. The briefing session and Kick-off Ceremony were held in October and December 2016 respectively. During the mentorship period from December 2016 to June 2017, mid-review with mentees was arranged

in March 2017 and final evaluation will be held in July 2017. Mentees' mid-review feedbacks were fruitful as they have established positive relationship and supportive professional network with mentors via social and recreational activities. Upon successful completion, mentees are required to prepare PowerPoint reports to share their learning experiences. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance and record in the Experiential Learning and Achievements Transcript (ELAT).



▲ The Kick-off Ceremony of the EdUHK Mentorship Scheme. In 2017, over 138 mentors from education, business and non-profit sectors took part in the scheme.

Mentee's comments:

"Overall, I have a very good experience with my mentor. My mentor is an open-minded person who shared her workplace and personal experience with me. She provided good advice in career planning and how to enhance interpersonal relationship at workplace."

"I appreciate my mentor for providing advice in career guidance and decision-making. Finally, I have a clearer direction of my career path!"



Mr Alexis Chiu, South China Managing Director of Saatchi & Saatchi (S&S) with his mentees.

▲ Mr Garrick Lau, Deputy CEO of Junior Achievement HK with his mentees.

Mentor's comments:

"It is always a great honour to share our career experience with the young people."

"They demonstrated confidence on their professions and possess good characters such as being easy-going and polite."

"Although I am not in the educational field, I'm glad that my mentees are open to know more about what's going on around them and not to restrict their scope in the academic sector."

Mentee's comments:

"I learnt that networking is important from mentor's personalities which are optimistic and goal-oriented. My mentor is a role model for me!"

"It is a good experience and I will recommend it to other students next year."