4 QUALITY EDUCATION

QUALITY EDUCATION

Research

Students' Real-Time Online Learning Readiness during the COVID-19 Pandemic

A research study led by the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering evaluated the effect of real-time online learning on learning motivation and readiness, as well as the self-efficacy of sub-degree (SD), undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) students.

PG students were found to have higher mean scores in terms of learning motivation and technological readiness compared to SD and UG students, and thus the impact of online learning was relatively lower on these students. Looking to teaching models in the post-COVID era, the researchers emphasised the importance for educators to address the distinctive learning needs of SD, UG and PG students.

Trilingual and Biliterate Language Education Policy in Hong Kong

Hong Kong has long upheld a 'trilingual and biliterate' language policy, covering English, Cantonese and Putonghua. However, recent public exam results show a drop in language ability of students in both Chinese and English.

Recognising the importance of an adequate linguistic ability not only in education but also in the broader societal context, Professor David Li Chor Shing, Adjunct Professor and former Head of the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies has advocated new policies to address this issue:
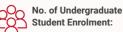- Mainly using Cantonese as the medium of instruction at the pre-school level;
- Promoting total immersion in a Putonghua language setting at the lower primary level; and
- Encouraging civil servants, schoolteachers and university staff to embrace a 'speak English/Putonghua where we can' campaign.

Education

Service-Learning: Aligning with Sustainable Development Goals

As a compulsory component of the undergraduate curriculum, the PolyU Service-Learning (SL) Programme provides students with opportunities to apply their professional knowledge to serve those in need and learn from the experience. PolyU provides a diverse range of SL subjects which closely align with the UN SDGs, playing a prominent role in nurturing responsible leaders and global citizens. By integrating sustainability competencies and concepts into the design and implementation of SL projects, students are able to develop a deeper understanding of the global challenges and are empowered to contribute actively to creating positive change.

No. of Undergraduate Student Enrolment:
4,417

No. of Service Hours:
176,680

No. of Subject Offerings:
74

"INSPIRE" Mentorship Programme

Since its launch in 2020, PolyU's university-wide mentorship programme, "INSPIRE", has gained considerable support from 175 local and non-local prominent leaders and role models, including University Council and Court members, University Fellows, outstanding alumni and Poly-preneurs, who have served as mentors to offer insightful guidance to **723 student mentees** from diverse cultural backgrounds and representing all faculties and schools. Through a variety of mentoring events, including face-to-face and online meetings, company visits, workshops, themed talks and sharing sessions, the students' holistic education experience, intellectual growth and professional development have been significantly enhanced.

READ@PolyU Campus Reading Programme

Initiated and hosted by the PolyU Library, the campus-wide READ@PolyU Programme aims to build an empathetic, creative and courageous community of learners and global citizens for whom reading is a source of knowledge and creativity. The programme was launched in 2011 to promote a love of reading and, to date, remains the only one of its kind in Hong Kong. Each year, first-year students are invited to collect a free copy of the common book, join a Book Chat Group and other exciting literary events such as author talks, book exhibitions and writing contests.

MakerMindset @i-Space Programme for Digital Literacy

The PolyU Library's MakerMindset@i-Space Programme provides an array of seminars, webinars, workshops and competitions for students from diverse academic and societal backgrounds to have the opportunity to explore and experiment with emerging technologies such as the internet of things, 3D modelling, virtual reality programming and AI. Through collaboration with i-Space industrial partners, the Library provides students with free-of-charge task-specific workshops to enhance their digital literacy.

Engagement

SoInno Design Education

Hosted by the PolyU Jockey Club Design Institute for Social Innovation, SoInno Design Education incorporates the UN SDGs into its curriculum and at least one into each student project. SoInno is dedicated to introducing social innovation and design thinking into secondary education. It aims to foster creativity, design thinking, problem-solving and 21st-century skills in young people, preparing them to more actively contribute to society. The project collaborates with educators to co-develop student-centred learning and teaching solutions, nurturing students' ability to integrate knowledge from different subjects through solving real-world problems. To date, **more than 35 schools** and **over 1,200 teachers and students** have benefitted from participation.

Partnering with Foundations to Promote Service-Learning in Secondary Schools

Partnering with Chow Tai Fook Charity Foundation and Keswick Foundation, PolyU has launched a three-year research project "Capacity Building Scheme for Secondary School Teachers: Promoting Meaningful Social Engagement for Young People through Service-Learning". The project was made possible due to the generous donation from the two local Foundations and it has been enrolled by **53 local secondary schools**.

NAIL "IT": Navigating in ICT Lifelong Learning

The project "NAIL 'IT': Navigating in ICT Lifelong Learning", initiated by the Department of Applied Social Sciences, empowers older adults by offering specialised Information and Communications

Technology courses designed for the third age, taught by trained tutors who are also older adults. The project objectives include promoting cyber security awareness, enhancing older adults' technological capacity, connecting them digitally with the community, and expanding their social circles. By providing practical skills and knowledge, the project enables older adults to navigate the digital world and use applications for daily life and health management, while also fostering social interaction and networking opportunities.

Policies and Operations

Open Access Library Resources for Learning and Teaching

The PolyU Library houses extensive collections covering a wide range of disciplines with holdings reaching **8.1 million** in 2021/22. **99.8% of journals and 86.4% books** are accessible online. It has archived open educational resources created by the PolyU community and facilitated the use of public domain, e-learning resources via the PolyU Institutional Research Archive, PolyU Electronic Theses Database, Open Educational Resources Portal, Digital Collections Portal and Outstanding Work by Students Portal. Meanwhile, "InfoLit for U", a MOOC project led by the PolyU Library, aims to help students become analytical, wise and creative information users for effective university learning and tackling professional challenges after graduation.

In-House Staff Training Programme

Offered by the Human Resources Office, the PolyU staff training programme aims to promote lifelong learning and strengthen knowledge and skills in the workplace. A wide range of courses are offered with topics that include legal knowledge, performance management, Chinese and English language proficiency and other soft-skill enhancement.

Scholarly Output **552**

FWCI **1.62**

Citation Count **4,749**

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