



Ref. No.
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**Projects on Promoting Outcome-Based Approaches to Student Learning
2007-08
Application for OBA Funding**

PART I: General Information

1. Title

Building Model Subjects for OBE at the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies

2. Name(s) of Applicant(s)

Project Leader

Name	Dept	Post	Groupwise	Ext.
Jiang Yan	CBS	Associate Professor	ctyjiang	7434

Team Member(s)

Name	Dept	Post	Groupwise	Ext.
Broadly involving all the subject teachers at the Department of CBS	CBS			

3. Total funding requested

4. Expected duration of project: 12 months

Proposed commencement date: September 1st, 2008

Expected completion date: August 31st, 2009

PART II: DETAILS OF PROPOSAL

1. Project objectives and significance

(What are your objectives in initiating this project? How does it align with institutional goals and targets in implementing outcome-based approaches to student learning?)

The aim of this project is to build up a set of content-based subjects characteristic of CBS biligual curricula that are strictly conducted according to OBE criteria, so that they can serve as model subjects for the delivery and revision of the remaining subjects at CBS as a major departmental effort of implementing and consolidating OBA.

The past five years have seen fundamental changes in the programmes offered by CBS. Long-standing BA programmes have phased out, giving way to a new BA programme shared with the Department of English (BA in Language Studies for the Professions, BALSP), which will again give way to an even newer BA programme owned by CBS in the near future (BA CBS). At the same time, the MA programme has evolved into an MA scheme, with a much larger student number. Such changes coincide with the exercise of curriculum revision introduced across whole university. As a result, all the new syllabi have been designed according to OBE criteria, but the actual subjects have just begun to be delivered in the OBA context. Much more efforts need to be exerted on the monitoring of OBA effects and the introduction of follow-up revisions. At the same time, other related issues should be dealt with. First, the development of effective techniques for large classroom teaching. Second, introducing new e-learning techniques to enhance teaching effects. Third, developing objective evaluation standards. Fourth, designing teaching portfolios with standard components. These, we believe will bring about substantive improvements on learning outcomes, thereby helping towards consolidating OBA results.

At present, the Department of CBS is in much need of having some frontline staff members taking a lead in actively engaging themselves in the implementing of the OBA, in the idiosyncratic context of the department, idiosyncratic in the sense that the department owns subjects in several areas, mostly involving more than one language both in terms of classroom media and in terms of object of analysis. It is believed that only when a selected number of pilot subjects have been put under the rigorous tests of the OBE in an overall manner can the others follow suit in principled and cost-effective ways. The pilot subjects will raise interesting issues for colleagues to reflect on, so that many pitfalls can be avoided when more staff members engage themselves actively in the efforts of OBE consolidation.

To these ends, we propose to conduct detailed tracking on the conducting of three subjects in accordance with OBA specifications. These are *Semantics and Pragmatics* [an MA compulsory subject involving a small class size of less than forty students], *Modern Rhetoric* [an MA elective involving a medium class size of around eighty students], and *Chinese Discourse for the Professions* [a BA compulsory subject involving a large class size of around 150 students]. These subjects represent the different class sizes, and are also related in teaching content, thereby making it easier to monitor teaching effects.

The project will attend to the following aspects:

1. Subject delivery: all lectures will be video-taped, which will be scrutinized in terms of delivery effects. Subject lecturers will reflect on the necessity and extent teaching methods can be improved to yield the best learning outcome. The videos will also serve as specimen for subsequent experience-sharing sessions and learning and teaching workshops held among interested staff members.

2. Content management: the videoed lecture content will be digitized. Efforts will then be made to enrich the e-content with other e-components such as illustrations produced in multimedia studio or short movies, so as to produce a package of optimally effective teaching content, which can be either

played on-line or used selectively during lectures. Such a product can also serve as specimen for further discussions.

3. Feedback mechanism: questionnaires will be distributed among students after each and every class and at the end of each teaching block so as to collect immediate student feedback. Statistical summaries will yield detailed analysis on the teaching effects, thereby providing more objective reference criteria for making improvements.

4. Providing standards for assessment and marking criteria

5. Integrating the above components into teaching portfolios with standard components.

6. Promoting good practices resulting from the project at the whole department.

2. Target users

(Who are the intended users of the 'deliverables' of the project – faculties / departments management or programme/subject teams or students?)

Staff members of the Department of CBS and students taking the subjects

If the target users are students, complete the table below:

Programme/ subject code	Programme/subject title	Credit units	Mode of study	Student intake quota per year
72017	MA in Chinese Linguistics: CBS500 Semantics and Pragmatics CBS519 Modern Rhetoric	3	Mixed	40+
03001	BA in Language Studies for the Professions: CBS382 Chinese Discourse in the Professions	3	Full-time	150

Please insert rows in the table if more space is required for additional information.

3. Outcomes and deliverables

(a) Major outcomes and deliverables

(What will be the major outcomes and deliverables of the project?)

	Major outcomes and deliverables with descriptions
(a)	Complete sample subjects for peer review and follow-up improvements against the OBA criteria
(b)	Digitized subjects for cyber-based delivery as well as peer-sharing
(c)	Methodological procedures in promoting larger scale OBE implementation

Please insert rows in the table if more space is required for additional information.

(b) Plan for developing and piloting / implementing the deliverables

(Detail the plan and procedures that you will adopt to develop and pilot/ implement the outcomes and deliverables. Also specify the dates of the pilot / implementation period)

September 1st to end of December 2008: Working on the two MA subjects: Semantics & Pragmatics; Modern Rhetoric, deliverables ready by the end of the semester.

Jan. to May, 2009: Working on the BA subject: Chinese Discourse in the Professions, deliverables ready by the end of the semester

4. Dissemination and sharing plan

(How are you going to disseminate and share the outcomes and deliverables of your project?)

The outcome and deliverables will be shared on a program or departmental basis, in workshops organized by DLTC.

5. Evaluation plan

(How do you plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the project, particularly its impact on the implementation of outcome-based approaches to student learning in the PolyU?)

The evaluations will be made in the forms of SFQ, graduate surveys, and peer reviews.

6. Impact

(How will the project contribute to the success of the implementation of outcome-based approaches to student learning in the PolyU/ department/ programme/ subject?)

It is hoped that the project will enact further and better guided effects in OBE implementation in the whole department of CBS, irrespective of the areas of teaching, with the hope that in the end, no subject will be left out in the frontline subject delivery in the context of OBE ideas and ideals.

7. Target date(s) for submission of progress and completion reports

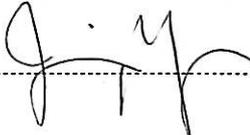
	Planned submission date (mm/yyyy)
1. Progress report <i>(for projects whose duration lasts more than 1 year; to be submitted mid-way through the proposed project period)</i>	
2. Completion report <i>(to be submitted within 3 months after the project completion date)</i>	December 2009

PART III: BUDGET OF PROPOSAL

***Important Notes**

1. Funding requests for equipment and/ or software will be considered only if:
 - a. the equipment / software is essential to the successful implementation of the project, AND
 - b. it is not available in the department concerned. The Project Leader has the responsibility to check this out.
2. The purchasing policies and procedures of FO must be followed for the procurement of approved items.
3. Funding request for conference attendance will not be considered.

Project Leader

Name: JIANG YAN Signature: 
(in block letters)

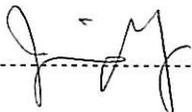
Dept: CBS Date: 30/01/2008

PART IV: DEPARTMENTAL ENDORSEMENT

Endorsement by Chair of FLTC/ DLTC:

Comments on the proposal:

As the proposed project was drafted of Chair of DLTC, the proposal is sent directly to HOD for endorsement.

Name: JIANG YAN Signature:  Date: 30/01/2008
(in block letters)

Endorsement by Dean/ HoD:

Comments on the proposal:

By endorsing this proposal, I agree that:

1. The proposal suitably addresses the School/Department's needs in promoting and implementing outcome-based approaches to student learning and will be considered as part of the School's/Department's Business Plan.
2. The School/Department will receive a funding as calculated for item (e) in the Budget section which I will use for providing the time release recommended by the project proposers, based on the Total Workload Model, to support them to work effectively on the project.

Name: CHAN SHUI DUEN Signature:  Date: 30 January 2008
(in block letters)

Please return this form to Miss Miranda Fung, Secretary of Working Group on Outcome-based Education,
c/o Educational Development Centre
by 31 January 2008



Supplementary Note

Converted from email received on 25 April 2008

Proposed Project:	Building model subjects for OBE at the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
Chief Proposer(s):	Dr. Jiang Yan (CBS)

Due to heavy teaching workload, I am afraid I was not able to draft a more detailed response. Here are the main points:

- clarify which prioritized issues stated in this round of Call for Proposals are addressed by the project

Response: The key mission for this project proposal is to get the OBE consolidative work off the ground at the department of CBS, to get the details of the OBA materialized, which at present have only been laid out on paper. Put it another way, it is also a pilot study on materializing OBA in a language department.

- WGOBE raises questions about the feasibility and validity of the proposed methodology to achieve the project outcomes; WGOBE recommends you to seek EDC's advice for revising the project proposal

Response: Without seeing the details in writing, it is hard to see the thrust of the queries. Would be ready to incorporate the expert views of the WGOBE. But the project proponent has been too busy in teaching and in doing program promotion. Could the project be tailored to the specifications of the WG at a later date?

- justify the budget for the video machine, notebook and software (*Important*)

Response: *the equipments are essential for the project. They need to be purchased because the project team will need to use the equipments dedicated to this project, while at present like equipments can only be borrowed from the department on an hourly basis and on a first-come-first-served basis.*