

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Office of Service-Learning

Post Specification

Service-Learning Journalists for International Service Projects

Opportunity Description

Do you like travelling? Are you interested in people? Do you have a knack for discovering and telling stories, whether through writing, video, or photography?

This student journalist programme is a collaboration between the Office of Service-Learning at PolyU and the Swearer Center at Brown University (Brown). PolyU has a strong tradition of service-learning in Hong Kong, South-East Asia, Central Asia, Greater China, and Africa. Every year, a team of student journalists from PolyU and Brown accompany the service teams on their international service projects to help to tell the stories of the students, teachers, local NGOs, and the local communities.

We are accepting applications for our 2019 programme. We are looking for student writers, photographers, and videographers. Your job will be to document, through photos, videos, and/or interviews, the work performed through the service projects and their impact on the community. With this documentation, you will either then produce a series of articles that will eventually be bound into a published book, edit your videos into a documentary, or some other form to tell the story.

You will have opportunities to travel along with our student teams as they serve in countries such as Rwanda, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and/or Kyrgyzstan. Therefore, this opportunity involves travelling to overseas sites in developing countries, often in rural areas. Projects that our students will be working on (and will be expected to be covered in the documentation) include engineering/renewable energy, health care, eye care, nutrition, as well as hotel or hospitality training. You can expect to spend approximately 3-4 weeks travelling with the service teams.

Qualifications

Interested students are expected to be able to express themselves well, either through writing, or digital media (photography and /or videography). Experience in creative writing or digital storytelling would be a plus, as would prior overseas travel experience, especially to developing countries. Students must have a **valid passport** that is not barred from travelling to the following countries: Cambodia, Vietnam, Rwanda, Indonesia, and Kyrgyzstan as well as being physically and medically fit for such services. Students who have a track record in community service would be preferred.

Basic expenses (e.g. visa fees, air tickets, food, and board) for the service projects will be covered by our programme. Students are responsible for any vaccinations deemed necessary by their physician.

Period: 27 May to 2 August 2019