

## Outstanding Student, School of Design 2019

**YUEN Lau Kwan**  
BA (Hons) in Environment & Interior Design



Studying at the university is a journey. From the beginning to the end, we reflect our stories of growth and individuality. Each experience and learning process has witnessed how we have reached or exceeded our potential. PolyU provides a platform for us to expand our knowledge, meet life-long friends, discover new possibilities and broaden our horizons. My university life is the most stimulating, challenging and fulfilling time of my life so far.

### Memorable Studio Life

As a design student, studio experience was one of the most memorable things and most intense periods of my university life. We had our own workspaces in the studio, where we learned, explored, experienced, grew and formulated our ideals about design. Our studio provided a perfect environment for collaborative and individual learning. The conversation with peers and tutors sharpened our creativity and innovation which motivate me to challenge myself for new possibilities. Design Studio was not only a workstation but also a social community hub. With the amount of time spent inside the studio, we got to know our classmates well. We formed an important support network that supported and encouraged one another to overcome all the tasks, challenges, problems and obstacles together. We were never alone. I sincerely believed that studio friends last a lifetime!

### Fabulous Study Aboard Experience



The overseas exchange experience was absolutely wonderful and memorable. I immersed myself under a different cultural environment while simultaneously broadening my international horizon and strengthening my professional abilities.

Having a fabulous time collaborating with students and tutors from diverse backgrounds, I exposed to a wide range of creative ideas, design inspirations and cultural influences. Some students expressed diverse characteristic investigation through a series of human, spatial and material explorations, which were full of fascinating insights on spatial creativity and innovation. While some of them illustrated the permeation of art elements into the spatial design which was inspiring in term of cross-disciplinary combination and connection. These integrated design approaches caught my eyes and created a deep impression in my mind.

Through leaving our comfort zone to a new host country, I experienced another culture with incredible new outlooks, customs activities, traditions, and social atmospheres. Every culture has its history and unique value. It is essential to cultivate sensitivity toward cultural diversity, especially for a design student. Our thoughts and behaviours are affected by what we see, hear and experience. The exchange experience opened fresh and alternative perspectives for seeing things and generating design ideas. It is so true that learning by experiencing is often more effective than reading books.

---

### Friendly Tips for Fellow Students

1. Stay passionate about what you are doing.
2. Stay positive. Everything will turn out alright in the end.
3. Never limit yourself and your potential.
4. Strike a balance between your academic and social life (Very important!!!)
5. Cherish the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone (It may be difficult at the beginning. Believe me, you will adapt to it. When you look back, you will appreciate your courageous.)

Time flies, it is hard to believe it is my final year studying at PolyU. Four years university education has enabled me to see things at a slightly different angle than how I used to, allowed me to gain fresh insight and inspired me to develop an optimistic attitude toward life and the future. I strongly believe that the undergraduate years are a turning point in every students' lives.

