

Service-Learning in Higher Education : Teacher Development Course

2023

Highlights:

Fundamental principles and theories + Pedagogical project design + Research-based findings + Case studies sharing + Onsite experience in Cambodia

About the Course

Service-learning (SL) is an experiential learning pedagogy that integrates community service with academic study and reflection. SL has been shown to be a high-impact educational practice over the years. It has been demonstrated to be effective at training students' empathy and sense of social responsibility because students are immersed into the community and get first-hand experience of community and societal needs. This course is devised for teachers or practitioners who are interested in developing and teaching SL courses at the higher education level.

This course integrates lectures and discussions with an on-site experience in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia** in early June 2023. Participants will be able to:

- Articulate the general principles and theories in SL and learn about effective SL design and assessment;
- Observe our service projects and potentially interact or interview with our students, teachers, and the local NGO partners; and
- Get hands-on practice in designing your own project and have a chance to receive feedback on your project proposal.

Cambodia has hosted PolyU's first overseas service-learning and leadership hub since 2012. Over 200 PolyU students will be doing SL projects of different natures and disciplines in Cambodia this summer.

To learn

About Service-Learning (SL) – What it is, how to do it, and how it impacts students



To examine

Different SL courses and projects, and speak with teachers and students



To explore

Different NGOs, what they do, how to design a project and how to incorporate



Course Fee

HKD 9,900/ USD 1,260

**The cost will cover airfare, ground transportation, accommodation and meals in Cambodia. Successful participants are responsible for securing their own travel documents, visa, insurance and associated travel vaccinations.*

HKD 5,400/ USD 688

**Participants to be responsible for their own air tickets*

#Travel grant is available for participants from developing countries or who have financial needs. For enquiry, please contact silo.info@polyu.edu.hk

Eligibility

Teachers/ Practitioners who are interested in developing and teaching SL courses/ projects in higher-education institutions

Application

Complete online application form



Enquiries

Service-Learning and Leadership Office

T: +852 2766 4376

E: silo.info@polyu.edu.hk

Service-Learning



Key Dates

Extended

Application
deadline

17-24 Apr 2023
(Mon) 11:59pm HKT

Admission
results

28 Apr 2023 (Fri)

Briefing session
(online)

5 May 2023 (Fri)
4:30-6:00pm HKT

E-Learning &
self-study

31 May 2023
(Wed)

On-site
experience in
Cambodia

5-9 June 2023
(5 days 4 nights)

About the Instructors

- Service-Learning at PolyU has been awarded the Winner of THE Awards Asia 2022: Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year, as well as the QS Reimagine Education Awards 2017/18.
- SLLO won the 2020 International Research Award of International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE).
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The course will be delivered by **Dr Grace Ngai** and **Dr Stephen Chan**, the current and founding Heads of the Service-Learning and Leadership Office, respectively. Since PolyU made academic service-learning an institutional strategy for all-rounded education in 2012, Dr Ngai and Dr Chan have demonstrated outstanding academic leadership in helping university management to conceptualize SL as an integral component of the PolyU undergraduate curriculum and to implement SL as an institutional teaching and learning strategy. Over the past ten years, PolyU has gone from having six service-learning courses enrolling 200 students to almost 70 courses enrolling 4,000 students annually.

PolyU's service projects have expanded from Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland to Cambodia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Rwanda, Vietnam and so on; improving the lives of people in need and inspiring the students involved to become responsible professionals and global citizens. Many innovative pedagogical practices have also been pioneered, such as multicultural student teams through partnerships with local NGOs, service-learning exchange and internship programmes, and an innovative 'global SL classroom' initiative that allows PolyU students and their overseas peers to attend the same lectures and develop project ideas via video conferencing, and then implement projects together in person at the service location.



Dr Grace Ngai –

Head of Service-Learning and Leadership Office (SLLO) and Associate Professor of Department of Computing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University recipients of the UGC Teaching Award in 2016

Dr Stephen Chan –

Founding Head of SLLO, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Board of IARSLCE