Sharing knowledge for the greater good

French Programme, Nov-Dec 2018

Fostering a knowledge sharing culture among students is a great way to enrich the learner’s experience as well as to empower students to share the knowledge and skills they have acquired in class. Students of the French programme were given the opportunity to do this for a good cause.

In the first semester of 2018-2019, a group of four students were invited to give a series of lectures to introduce French culture to secondary school students living under poverty. The program organized by The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council (NACC) took place in a secondary school in Causeway Bay between November and December. HKU students were in charge of choosing the topics, designing the lectures and activities and delivering the course content they created to a class of F.4-F.6, secondary school students. The lectures delivered in Cantonese aimed at giving a broad introduction on important aspects of the French culture such as famous places in France and French cuisine.

For students of the French programme, it was a challenging yet inspiring experience which gave them the opportunity to reflect on what they have learned and on how to convey it to others. As it was their first time to assume a teaching role, they experienced first-hand the challenge of grasping an audience’s attention and arousing its interest. According to one of the HKU students: “This project really inspired me. It gave me the chance to apply the knowledge I acquired in class and to collaborate with other students”.

This project is part of Personalized Learning Paths which aim at advancing experiential and diversified learning for students of the French programme.
2017/2018 Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference

Hong Kong Studies, 13-14 Dec 2018

The third Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference, co-organized by The Academy of Hong Kong Studies (EdUHK) and Hong Kong Studies Programme (HKU), was successfully held in the University of Hong Kong.

This two-day conference, consisting of book talks, dialogues, and paper presentations by PhD Students of Hong Kong Studies Research School attracted over 140 participants to explore the major themes of Hong Kong Studies, including politics and law, sociology, communication, education, history, and arts and cultures.

Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference (HKSAC) aims at bringing together the Hong Kong studies research community and promoting exchange, sharing and collaboration of Hong Kong-focused research. A Review Panel comprises distinguished scholars was also formed to identify and honor outstanding papers through this annual occasion.
DPRK Academic Workshop cum Fieldwork

East Studies Division, 16 – 19 Oct 2018

During the reading week, 39 students led by two staff members (Dr Victor TEO & Mr C.K. LEE) undertook an academic fieldtrip to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to participate in a workshop organized in collaboration with the Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies (PUFS).

The academic fieldtrip presented the students with an opportunity to witness and experience life in DPRK and further consolidate what they have learnt in class. The trip also provided knowledge exchange opportunities for our students and staff with the North Koreans on a wide range of topics, ranging from economic development to everyday life such as marriage and family life.

The HKU delegation benefited from a number of firsts with this trip. It was the first time that our academic collaborator, PUFS hosted a foreign student delegation officially, and collaborated in a joint academic workshop. HKU and PUFS students were given unprecedented in-depth interaction opportunities and given lectures by North Korean professors on site. The HKU delegation also met and benefited from exchanges and lectures with professors specializing in political philosophy, history and international relations from the Korean Academy of Social Sciences.

Outside the classroom, the delegation toured the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the mausoleum built in 1976 where the two former leaders of the DPRK lie in state. This was followed by a visit to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum where students learnt about the alternate North Korean narratives of the Korean War. HKU students were delighted to meet with the DPRK Naval Officer who led the 1968 capture of the US Naval Intelligence ship USS Pueblo (AGER-2), and were treated to an oral account of what transpired on that eventful day. Following the visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Kaesong, students commented how friendly the atmosphere had become in the aftermath of the successful Kim-Trump Summit and the North-South summits, a sea-change from just a year before.

We would like to thank Dean Derek COLLINS, Dr Yoshiko NAKANO, CEDARs and the Gallant Ho Experiential Learning Fund for making this experiential learning cum knowledge exchange academic trip possible.
Italian Club at HKU

Italian programme, 13 Nov 2018 (Tue)

On 13th November, 2018, a launch event for the “Italian club at HKU” was held in the University’s Global Lounge. The Italian Club at HKU aims at promoting the Italian cultural heritage and language on campus by organizing events, talks and fun-filled Italian style entertainment.

The event started off with an insightful speech by Jessie HO Sik Yin, one of our final year students, about her experience studying Italian at HKU. It continued with the remarks by the Italian Consul General of Hong Kong and Macao, Mr. Clemente CONTESTABILE. The Consul General and participants then enjoyed an Italian opera aria performed by another student, Jason WU King Long.

With the support of our former Acting School Head, Dr. Yoshiko NAKANO, the launch event was well-attended and it was a lovely occasion for students studying Italian as well as Italy lovers to share their interest for Italian in company.

Please follow us on Facebook to stay updated on our future events: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ItalianClubHKU/

Arabic Book Donation Ceremony

Arabic programme, 02 Oct 2018 (Tue)

In the presence of Consul General of the United Arab Emirates to Hong Kong, Ms Nabila ALSHAMSI and former Acting Head of School of Modern Languages and Cultures, Dr. Yoshiko NAKANO, a book donation ceremony was held in the University of Hong Kong.

The Consul General presented an Arabic book library, which was generously donated by Kalimat Foundation from Sharjah to our School’s Arabic programme in support of teaching and learning. The Arabic class students were also excited to share their experience and progress of learning Arabic language with UAE CG H.E. Nabila ALSHAMSI.

The Arabic books are now available in the SMLC Practice Laboratory (Room 5.12, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus).
SMLC Seminars

American Studies
SMLC Seminar; 22 Oct 2018 (Mon)
The Lost Boys: Kidnapping and Slavery on America’s Reverse Underground Railroad
By Dr. Richard BELL

Japanese Studies
SMLC Seminar; 07 Nov 2018 (Wed)
Japanese Literature Workshop
By Prof. Haruo SHIRANE and Prof. Tomi SUZUKI

African Studies
SMLC Seminar; 21 Nov 2018 (Wed)
A Life Less Ordinary
By Mr. Matthew WILLMAN

European Studies
SMLC Seminar; 24 Oct 2018 (Wed)
Trust in the EU in Challenging Times
By Dr. Anna MICHALSKI

American Studies
SMLC Seminar; 14 Nov 2018 (Wed)
Reading the Campus Novel (from a Distance)
By Dr. Wesley BEAL
Talks

Spanish
23 Oct 2018 (Tue)
Hispano-Filipino Literature in a Global Context
By Ms. Irene VILLAESCUSA ILLÁN

American Studies
15 Nov 2018 (Thu)
The Changing Media Landscape in a Post-Truth World
By Mr. Nicholas KRALEV

Hong Kong Studies
24 Oct 2018 (Wed)
香港故事：梁醒波
Mr Leung Sing Por’s Hong Kong heritage in his Canto-opera works
By Mr. Andrew TW LEUNG

Japanese Studies
17 Nov 2018 (Sat)
How to utilize the open online course “Japanese Pronunciation for Communication”
By Prof. Takako TODA

On 17 November 2018, Prof. Takako TODA from Waseda University in Tokyo delivered a lecture on how to utilize a free online Japanese learning course on the MOOC platform that she and her team developed and opened in 2016. She also shared with us the backstory of its production and drew the attention of the audience.

Korean Studies
05 Dec 2018 (Wed)
Is the North Korean Economy Improving under Kim Jeong Un’s Regime?
By Prof. KIM, Sei-Wan
**Film Screenings & Other Events**

### French

22-24 October 2018 (Mon-Wed)

**A Rendezvous with Chanel Fragrance**

In October 2018, 35 students of the French programme had the opportunity to discover the world of Chanel fragrance and learn more about the art of perfume making through a series of workshops. This project, co-organized with Chanel Hong Kong is part of the Personalized Learning Paths offered by the French programme at HKU.

### Spanish

01 & 07 Nov 2018 (Thu & Wed)

**“PENÍNSULA MITRE, A Forgotten Land” & “SED, INVASIÓN GOTA A GOTA”**

Film screening

In collaboration with the Consulate General of Argentina and the HK Documentary Initiative

### European Studies

19 & 21 Nov 2018 (Mon & Wed)

'Goodbye Lenin' & 'The Lives of Others'

Film screening

### African Studies

21 Nov 2018 (Wed)

**VIBRANCY OF SILENCE**

Film screening

Discussion with the filmmaker Marthe Djilo KAMGA and the writer-producer Frieda EKOTTO
Publications

VÁZQUEZ VÁZQUEZ, Maria Mercedes
The Question of Class in Contemporary Latin American Cinema

The Question of Class in Contemporary Latin American Cinema responds to the renewed interest in class within and outside academia by examining the aesthetics and politics of class in a representative selection of films from the contemporary cinemas of Venezuela, Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina.

CHU, Stephen Yiu Wai
Found in Transition: Hong Kong Studies in the Age of China
Albany, NY: SUNY Press. 2018

CHU, Stephen Yiu Wai (Ed.)
“Betwixt and Between: Hong Kong Studies Reconsidered”

GRUENEWALD, Tim
“East-West flows: Cinematic currents between China and the United States”
Asian Cinema, 2018, v. 29 n. 1, p. 3-14

“Wang was missing: Re-discovering Wayne Wang’s independence”
Asian Cinema, 2018, v. 29, p. 63-79

CHU, Stephen Yiu Wai
“梁偉文·林夕”
羅國洪, 朱少璋Eds. 香港 · 人

FICHTER, James
“Imperial Interdependence on Indochina's Maritime Periphery: France and Coal in Ceylon, Singapore and Hong Kong, 1859-1895”
Also as an Editor
British and French Colonialism in Africa, Asia and the Middle East Connected Empires across the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Centuries.
Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019
GRUENEWALD, Tim
“Superhero Films after 9/11: Mitigating 'Collateral Damage' in the Marvels Cinematic Universe”

Also as Editor

LI, Ji
“Catholic Communities and Local Governance in Northeast China”

POCH, Daniel

POCH, Daniel
"Entre la novela y la poesía tradicional: el género shaseibun y la representación de los sentimientos en el Japón del período Meiji"

TEO, Victor (Eds with YOON, Sungwon)
Illicit Industries and China’s Shadow Economy: Challenges and Prospects for Global Governance and Human Security
Oxford and New York: Routledge, UK, 2018

LI, Ji
“Resistance, Accommodation and Indigenization: Religion and Political Transformation in Modern China”

TEO, Victor
Japan’s Arduous Rejuvenation as a Global Power: Democratic Resilience and the US-China Challenge
Palgrave-Macmillan, New York, London & Singapore, 2019
TEO, Victor

*Japan’s Island Troubles with China and Korea: Prospects and Challenges for Resolution (Politics in Asia)* Series

Oxford and New York: Routledge, UK, 2018

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VÁZQUEZ VÁZQUEZ, María Mercedes

“New Geographies of Class in Mexican and Brazilian Cinemas: Post Tenebras Lux and Que horas ela volta?”


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WONG, HW (with YAU, HY)

The Japanese Adult Video Industry

Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2018

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WONG, John

“The Rise of China and India’s Evolving Role in the US-Japan Alliance”

Harvard Program on US-Japan Relations Occasional Paper Series, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2018

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WONG, John

“Fashioning a Global Brand: Houqua’s Portraits in the China Trade of the Early Nineteenth Century”


Hong Kong: Hong Kong Maritime Museum Limited, 2018.

This publication accompanies the exhibition of the same name which runs from December 14, 2018 to April 14, 2019, organized and curated by the Hong Kong Maritime Museum. Dr. WONG is serving as an adviser to this project.

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TEO, Victor


translated into Japanese, and published in 杉田米行, “アジア太平洋地域の政治・社会・国際関係歴史的発展と今後の展望”，明石書店, 2018

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WONG, Max WL

“‘Chinese Laws as Fundamental, Western Laws as in Assistance’: The Struggle for ‘Retention’ of He Jian in the Qing Criminal Code,”

The Journal of Comparative Law, 2018, v. 13 n. 2

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WONG, John (with CHEUNG, Sidney)

“豉油小碟裏的香港：從生曬醬油到港製頭抽”

“Soy Sauce in Hong Kong: From Sun-Dried Sauce to First-Brewed Premium”

In the Media

European Studies

Dr. Stefan AUER

Lack of a Brexit deal will not put Britain 'under siege'
CNBC; Squawk Box
04 Sept 2018

Remain optimistic about Brexit deal, professor says
CNBC
21 Sept 2018

Merkel's announcement is 'too little too late'
CNBC; Squawk Box
30 Oct 2018

Will Ireland and the UK find agreement on the border?
CNBC; The Rundown
26 Nov 2018

'No deal' Brexit is the most likely outcome right now
CNBC; Street Signs Asia
05 Dec 2018

Hong Kong Studies

Prof. CHU, Stephen Y.W.

當 add oil 走進牛津
The Standnews
26 Oct 2018

Spanish

Dr. María Mercedes VÁZQUEZ VÁZQUEZ

'Theresa May's dancing signals confidence'
CNBC; Street Signs
04 Oct 2018

'No deal' Brexit is the most likely outcome right now
CNBC; Street Signs Asia
05 Dec 2018

Latin American Movies About Domestic Workers Are Always Told From the Perspective of the Elite
Remezcla
10 Dec 2018
**Dr. TEO, Victor**

**Japan in Focus: Why Japan reportedly had a secret meeting with North Korea**  
Australian Broadcast Corporation  
01 Sep 2018

**Abe has shown remarkable resilience in his handling of Trump**  
Sputnik News International  
22 Sep 2018

**Japan Would Prefer UK have some sort of deal before joining TPP**  
Sputnik News International  
10 Oct 2018

**China’s Cyber Security Law: Implications for Foreign Businesses**  
Swedish Business Daily (Dagens Industri)  
21 Oct 2018

**China Japan Relations: Japanese PM’s Visit to focus on Economy**  
Reuters Beijing / TRT International World News  
24 Oct 2018

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**Abe’s China Visit: What You Need to Know**  
Caixin Global World News / Australia Financial Review  
24 Oct 2018

**Military Deal With Japan Offers India Access To West Pacific To Counter China**  
Sputnik News / Urdu News  
24 Oct 2018

**End of an Era, as Japan to stop aid to China after 40 years**  
SCMP; Inkstone News  
25 Oct 2018

**Prime Minister Abe’s Visit to Beijing** (Print title “China and Japan are expected to ink “a lot” of deals as their leaders meet in Beijing))  
CNBC News; Street Signs  
25 October 2018

**Why Japan and China are trying to make nice**  
The Quartz  
26 Oct 2018

**Prime Minister Modi’s Visit to Japan**  
CGTN; The Point  
29 Oct 2018

**Changes in China-Japan relations, amid the first official visit of a Japanese leader to Beijing in seven years**  
Arirang International  
07 Nov 2018

**US-China Trade War Outcome of Trump-Xi talks at G20 forum and the prospects of U.S.-China trade on disputes**  
Arirang International  
10 Dec 2018

**Japan’s New Defence Policy Decisions: Considerations of China and US loom large**  
China Daily; Invited Op Editorial  
21 Dec 2018
Staff News

Leaving Staff

Dr. Wesley BEAL
Fulbright Visiting Associate Professor
(American Studies)

Staff with new positions

Dr. John WONG
Acting School Head

Dr. Paul CHA
Programme Director
(Korean Studies)

Staff Achievement

Dr. Janet BORLAND, Assistant Professor in the Department of Japanese Studies, has been awarded the University of Hong Kong’s Outstanding Teaching Award 2018. Drawing on her research interests and personal life experiences, Janet has designed and taught courses that explore Japan’s seismic past and contemporary leadership in disaster preparedness and recovery as windows for students to think and engage differently with the world as it was, is, and might be, in the future.

In 2016, Janet partnered with Mitsubishi Corporation and devised a fully-sponsored field trip called the “Young Leaders Tour of Japan,” which enables students to explore recovery and reconstruction following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. A core aspect of this course is to get students out of the classroom and experience not only the physical, social and economic destruction that was wrought on local communities in northeastern Japan, but also to see what sustainable reconstruction entails – both the triumphs and the ongoing struggles.

“For many of our students who have never been to a remote rural area before,” Janet says, “let alone a former disaster zone, this is an eye-opening experience.” Students agree that the field trip to Miyagi and Tokyo is a unique opportunity to enrich their undergraduate degree, with one student describing the Young Leaders Tour of Japan as “one of the most precious opportunities that I have had in my university life.”
Staff Achievement

Dr. James FICHTER has secured General Research Fund (GRF) / Early Career Scheme (ECS) grants.

Dr. Ji Li, joint Assistant Professor in China Studies and HKIHSS is working on a 36-month CRF project titled “Infrastructures of Faith: Religious Mobility on the Belt and Road” which has been awarded funding of HK$6,252,078. Dr. Li is one of the Co- Principal Investigators of this research project.

Dr. Li CHONG (German Programme) was awarded the Faculty Knowledge Exchange Award of Faculty of Arts 2018 on the project “Promoting German in Secondary Schools”.

Dr. John WONG (Hong Kong Studies) was awarded the HKU Faculty Research Award for Junior Tenure-track Professoriate Staff.

The University’s KE funding will support Dr. Victor Teo’s KE Impact Project proposals.

Student Achievement

China Studies
PhD student CHEN Sixing has been awarded HKU Foundation Postgraduate Fellowship.