

Project Information

Project Title (in English)

China and Globalization: Liberal Studies
Teaching Development and Support

Project Title (in Chinese)

中國與全球化：通識教學發展及支援

A. Project Summary

The proposed project aims at promoting student understanding of China's place in the irresistible trend of globalization, by providing teaching and learning support for territory-wide post-secondary institutions and universities. The emphasis of the project is the interaction of China and globalization, intending to enhance students' knowledge of their mother country on the one hand; and on the other hand to provide students with a global and cosmopolitan outlook. The ultimate outcome of the project is a teaching package, which will be available to all post-secondary institutions, benefiting all sub-degree and bachelor-degree students.

Responding to the recent educational emphasis on a multi-disciplinary approach in teaching and learning and preparing the future generations to cope with the dynamic globalizing society and the world, all post-secondary institutions have offered courses under the stream of General Education or Liberal Studies. Among them, globalization and especially China are the two most popular subjects. It is, however, felt that existing curriculum and course design which tends to treat the abovementioned two themes separately is not the best approach to prepare the next generations in dealing with society and the world after graduation. China should be studied concurrently with the development of the contemporary world, so students can understand the challenges and opportunities their country faces.

To better prepare the graduates in dealing with the dynamic society and the world, the Department of History has developed a series of courses under the stream called "China and the World." The strong enrolment numbers clearly indicate that students perceive the need to understand China's role in the world.

The project consists of three elements: (1.) development of a teaching package; (2.) development and maintenance of an internet platform; and (3.) organization of activities for post-secondary teachers and students.

1. Development of a Teaching Package

A teaching package titled "China and Globalization: The Interactive Teaching Tool" (中國與全球化：互動教學工具), consisting of a textbook (both teacher and student versions), a resource/data file, a set of worksheets and a USB flash drive, is the ultimate outcome of the project. This package will be the result of the collective effort of all participants, ranging from General Education/Liberal Studies teachers and students, teaching staff of the Department of History and invited educational experts. After completion, the package will be made available to all post-secondary institutions and relevant parties free of charge.

2. Development and Maintenance of an Internet Platform

A website bearing the same title as the teaching package will be established. Contents include the project's activities and progress reports, weekly news analysis, teaching and learning resources and a discussion forum. The website is open to the general public, with a view to promote understanding of China's place in the globalizing world in addition to improving teaching and learning effectiveness.

3. Organization of activities for post-secondary teachers and students

A number of interactive activities between teachers and for students are planned with three aims. First, to construct a network between the General Education/Liberal Studies teachers for

experience-sharing and mutual support so as to enhance teaching effectiveness; second, to widen students' horizons and enrich their understanding of China's place in the globalizing world by exposing them to the first-hand resources and engaging them in actual situations; and finally, to improve the project's development of the teaching package. These activities are wide-ranging, including public talks and seminars which feature prominent experts and figures from the community; remedial courses to enrich the knowledge of China and globalization; visits and outings to such places as the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (HK Island Sub-office) and HK Exchanges; and specialized workshops/seminars to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness. All these activities are valuable inputs of the projected teaching package.

B. Project Objectives

The project has two sets of objectives: (1.) the short-term objectives targeting the General Education/Liberal Studies teachers and students engaging in the study of China through the teaching package; and (2.) the long-term objectives aiming at promoting territory-wide understanding of China's place in a globalized world.

1. Short-term objectives:

- a. To improve teaching effectiveness of General Education/Liberal Studies, given that the discipline has a relatively short history in post-secondary institutions;
- b. To relieve teachers' workload in course preparation through resource-sharing and the establishment of a mutual help network;
- c. To enhance student understanding of China, so as to foster their national identity;
- d. To widen students' intellectual horizons, so as to become informed world citizens; and
- e. To improve the learning capacity of students by equipping them with a global outlook, a multidisciplinary perspective and the relevant self-learning skills.

Of the five-point short-term objectives, the last point which aims at helping students "learning to be learnt" through the teaching package and student-based activities is considered of vital and enduring significance. Upon completion, students are equipped with the necessary learning and analytical skills which they will find useful not only in their study but also in coping with daily life and the society.

2. Long-term objectives:

- a. To have the project's outcome published, so as to promote territory-wide understanding of China's challenges and opportunities in the globalizing world;
- b. To construct a permanent network between all post-secondary institutions for mutual support and collaboration in promoting teaching and learning;
- c. To construct a permanent website as an interactive platform, so as to arouse public interest in China's place in the contemporary world; and
- d. To serve as the motor for further improvement of quality education.

To attain the long-term objectives, the project will apply for a second grant, aiming at sustaining the results with a broader objective view of improving quality education and promoting territory-wide understanding of the subject.

C. Outcomes and Deliverables of Project

1. Project Outcomes

- a. **A teaching package titled “China and Globalization: The Interactive Teaching Tool” (現代中國與全球化：互動教學工具)**

Contents:

The package will consist of a textbook of both teacher and student versions; a data/resource file; a set of worksheets; and a USB flash drive.

Target beneficiaries:

A total of 500 packages will be produced and made available to all post-secondary institutions on a free-of-charge basis. Hence, all sub-degree and bachelor-degree students taking the relevant courses will be benefited.

Expected Outcomes:

Teachers’ workload will be relieved with ready-made resources, hence improving teaching as well as learning effectiveness.

- b. **A website bearing the same title in (1.)**

Contents:

The website includes the latest information about the project, a resource database featuring weekly news analysis and a forum for public interaction and feedbacks.

Target beneficiaries:

Teachers, students and the general public.

Expected Outcomes:

Users’ understanding of the connection of China and globalization will be enriched and hence the national identity will be fostered.

- c. **Public Talks, Seminars/workshops and Ceremonies**

Contents:

A total of 3 public talks, 3 seminars and 2 ceremonies will be hosted for the General Education/Liberal Studies teachers and students, aiming at promoting teaching and learning effectiveness. All these will take place in Hong Kong Shue Yan University’s Lady Lily Shaw Hall throughout the 2 years.

Target beneficiaries:

4,000 headcount teachers and students (500 participants x 8 times)

Expected Outcomes:

Teaching effectiveness will be improved through experience-sharing and construction of an inter-institutional network.

Students’ learning interest will be aroused and learning capacity will be enhanced through direct and personal interaction and experience.

Advice and feedbacks of experts and users will be inputted in the scrutiny of the teaching package.

d. Outings/Visits**Contents:**

A total of 6 outings are planned to expose students to first-hand knowledge and experience outside the classroom.

Target beneficiaries:

All post-secondary students are invited to participate. Number of beneficiaries for each occasion depends on the host institutions.

Estimated number: 300 students (50 students X 6 times)

Expected Outcomes:

Students' knowledge will be enriched and horizons will be widened, hence learning capacities will be enhanced.

e. Remedial Courses and Trial of Teaching**Contents:**

A total of 140 classes, 35 classes for each conduct, are planned for the remedial courses and trial of teaching to enrich the understanding of China and globalization and to test the prepared course materials. The remedial courses comprise of 3 areas, each of 4-hour duration and conducted in 2 sessions. The trial of teaching lasts for 2 hours for each class.

Target beneficiaries:

8,400 headcount students will be benefited from the remedial courses (40 students/class X 35 classes X 2 sessions/area X 3 areas)

1,400 students will be benefited from the trial of teaching (40 students/class X 35 classes)

Expected outcomes

Students' knowledge of China and globalization will be enriched and enhanced, complementing the off-campus learning activities mentioned in (c.) and (d.).

The prepared materials which will be inputted in (a.) are empirically tested and scrutinized.

2. Deliverables

- a. Development of the teaching and learning materials with constant revision and close scrutiny through expert advice, remedial courses, trial of teaching and learning, teaching inspection, interactive activities and users' feedbacks and comments. The final outcome will be produced and made available to all post-secondary institutions.
- b. Construction of a website in part to supplement the task mentioned in (a.) and in part to promote the project to local audience.
- c. Organization of a total of 3 public talks and 3 seminars: 6 X 2 hours per occasion.
- d. Planning of a total of 6 outings/visits: 6 X half-day per occasion.

D. Implementation Details

The pilot project is divided into the three key stages of preparation, implementation and finalization running from October 2011 to September 2013, with Hong Kong Shue Yan University as the primary platform on which the project is launched.

Stage I: Project Setup and Preparation

1. Establishment of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization) (通識發展及支援中心: 中國與全球化)

It is the prime organ which runs the project, responsible for implementation of the activities and accomplishment of the projected outcomes mentioned in (C.) as well as coordination of all participants.

The participants include:

- a. the Project Team, making up of the entire teaching staff of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University, to oversee and monitor the operation of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization);
- b. the Advisory Committee, comprising experts from both local and overseas communities, to advise the Center's preparation of the teaching package through constant evaluation of the related materials and matters;
- c. the Liberal Studies teachers and coordinators of the territory-wide post-secondary institutions, whose cooperation and experiences are essential for the Center's activities and accomplishment of the projected outcomes;
- d. guests and institutions from the local community for public talks and outings/visits; and
- e. various types of staff employed for specialized operations and tasks.

2. Recruitment of Full-time Project Officer and Project Assistant on a 2-year term

They are responsible for the operation of the Center and monitor of the project.

The Project Officer's duties include:

- a. operation of the Center;
- b. liaison with the key personnel both within Hong Kong Shue Yan University and between the Center and the territory-wide post-secondary institutions;
- c. liaison with the Project Team and the Advisory Committee and implementation of the tasks assigned by the two;
- d. supervision of the part-time staff, including scheduling of the remedial courses and trial of teaching of the teaching staff, and deployment of student helpers/assistants for non-teaching tasks and activities;
- e. development, operation and constant revision and update of the project's website, including weekly news analysis;
- f. preparation of the materials for trial of teaching;
- g. inspection of trial of teaching for evaluation of the prepared teaching and learning materials;
- h. organization of public talks, seminars/workshops and ceremonies;
- i. organization of outings/visits;
- j. drafting and editing of the test banks, entry test, progress test and questionnaires for evaluation of the materials on trial and activities;
- k. collection and analysis of the data and feedbacks from users and relevant participants, such as the Advisory Committee, the Project Team, etc.;
- l. constant revision and update of the teaching and learning materials;
- m. final production of the teaching package and distribution of the products upon request from interested institutions;
- n. progress reports of the operation and activities of the Center on a monthly basis; and
- o. other administrative duties assigned by the Project Team.

The Project Assistant's duties include:

- a. assistance to the Project Officer in carrying out some of his/her tasks and assignments mentioned above, such as liaison, collection of data, delivery of materials between the Center and other institutions, etc.;
- b. monitoring of the Center when the Project Officer is absent for off-campus duties; and
- c. other clerical duties assigned by the Project Officer and the Project Team.

3. Recruitment of part-time and need-based staff for specialized tasks and activities

Different types of staff are employed throughout the 2 years on a task/activity-basis. They altogether help to ensure the smooth operation and implementation of the projected activities:

- a. One IT/company staff for construction of the project's website, including development of the self-directed learning software. This software is an interactive tool which users can learn more about China in the globalizing world at any time in any place. It comprises the daily updated news and information and the test banks. The test banks, also updated every working day, consist of (i.) a set of questions, in the form of multiple choices or short questions, which users can attempt based on the provided news and information; and (ii.) a set of suggested answers, against which users can evaluate their performance.
- b. Student helpers/assistants for the Project's activities, including (i.) preparation of the events, such as decoration of venues where public talks, seminars/workshops and ceremonies are held; (ii.) reception of the participants attending the public talks, seminars/workshops and ceremonies held in Hong Kong Shue Yan University; and (iii.) other off-campus and need-based tasks, such as research assistance, packing of the teaching materials, etc.
- c. 3 lecturers to design and conduct the 3 remedial courses of "Globalization and China's Political Development"; "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources" and "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development."
- d. Lecturer(s) to test the Center's prepared teaching and learning materials in the invited institutions through trial of teaching.

4. Preparation of the teaching and learning materials

The Center will start preparing the teaching and learning materials based on the advice and instructions from the Project Team and the Advisory Committee through the Project Officer. The materials will be first tested by trial of teaching, constantly revised in line with the feedbacks, comments and evaluation from users, the Project Team and the Advisory Committee. These materials will be turned into a teaching package when the project ends.

Stage II: Project Implementation

1. Implementation of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization)

An opening ceremony will be held to announce to the public the beginning of the Project and to introduce the Center, including its make-up, scheduled activities and the projected outcomes.

2. Implementation of the project's website for public access

3. Organization of the public talks and outings

A total of 3 public talks and 6 outings are planned under the 3 categories of "Globalization and China's Political Development"; "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources" and "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development," intending to complement the 3 remedial courses.

4. Organization of Seminars/workshops

A total of 3 seminars/workshops are planned for experience-sharing and teaching support for the

General Education/Liberal Studies teachers and coordinators, with a view of improving the project's outcomes and establishing a collaborative network among the post-secondary institutions. All these activities will be taken place in Hong Kong Shue Yan University.

5. Implementation of the remedial courses

The 3 courses of "Globalization and China's Political Development"; "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources" and "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development," each of 4-hour duration, are conducted in a total of 35 classes invited from the territory-wide post-secondary institutions. The courses aim to enrich students' understanding of the connection between China and globalization with emphasis on the conceptual context.

6. Trial of Teaching

Upon completion of the teaching and learning materials, they are sent to the 35 invited classes for trial. Each trial lasts for 2 hours, attended by the Project Officer. Entry test, progress test and questionnaires are carried out to track and measure the effectiveness of the materials on trial. The entry and progress tests target the students, implemented before and after the class respectively to assess teaching and learning effectiveness. Questionnaires are set for both the teachers and students to evaluate the materials.

Stage III: Final Production of "China and Globalization: The Interactive Teaching Tool"

1. Final scrutiny and revision of the teaching package

Taking into account the ideas and contents of the implemented public talks, seminars/workshops and remedial courses, feedbacks from users and inspection staff of the trial of teaching, data of the self-directed learning software of the project's website, comments and evaluation of the Advisory Committee and the Project Team on the implemented activities and materials on trial, the Center will finalize all into the teaching package in both hard- and soft-copy formats. The final product includes:

- a. two versions of a textbook bearing the project's title: one for teachers and the other for students;
- b. a set of worksheets;
- c. a resource/data file; and
- d. a 2G USB flash drive.

The package is made available to all post-secondary institutions free of charge.

2. The Closing Ceremony

A closing ceremony will be held in Hong Kong Shue University to review and announce the conclusion of the project, including introduction of the teaching package and experience-sharing of the participants.

E. Implementation Schedule <i>(Please extend this table if necessary)</i>		
Estimated start date of project:	October 2011	
Action <i>(please indicate key milestones)</i>	Timeframe	Cashflow Requirement
<p>1. <u>Infrastructure Setup:</u> (October-November 2011)</p> <p>i. Establishment of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization)</p> <p>ii. Recruitment of Project Officer and Project Assistant</p> <p>iii. Recruitment of IT staff/company</p> <p>2. <u>Implementation of the Project in the first half-year</u></p> <p>i. Operation of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization)</p> <p>ii. Launching of the project's website, including daily update of the test banks and weekly news analysis (Scheduled December 2011)</p> <p>iii. Opening Ceremony (Scheduled December 2011)</p> <p>iv. First Public Talk: "Globalization and China's Political Development" (Scheduled December 2011)</p> <p>v. Preparation for remedial courses and trial of teaching, including recruitment of staff for the remedial courses, drafting of teaching materials, entry and progress tests and questionnaires for trial by the Center, etc</p>	October 2011 to March 2012	\$334,520
<p>3. <u>Implementation of the Project in the second half-year</u></p> <p>i. Continuation of (2.i.), (2.ii) and (2.v.)</p> <p>ii. Second Public Talk: "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources." (Scheduled April 2012)</p> <p>iii. First seminar (Scheduled May 2012)</p> <p>iv. First and Second Outings/Visits (Scheduled April and June 2012)</p> <p>v. Recruitment of teaching staff for the trial of teaching</p>	April 2012 to September 2012	\$283,060
<p>4. <u>Implementation of the Project in the third half-year</u></p> <p>i. Continuation of (3.i.)</p> <p>ii. Implementation of remedial courses (first class scheduled October 2012)</p> <p>iii. Implementation of trail of teaching (first class scheduled October 2012)), including entry test, progress test and questionnaires for evaluation</p> <p>iv. Third Public Talk: "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development" (Scheduled November 2012)</p> <p>v. Second seminar/workshop (Scheduled January 2013)</p> <p>vi. Third, Fourth and Fifth Outings/Visits (Scheduled October 2012, December 2012 & February 2013)</p>	October 2012 to March 2013	\$536,860

<p><u>5. Implementation of the Project in the fourth half-year</u> (in 2 months ending in May 2013)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Continuation of (4.i), (4.ii.) and (4.iii.) ii. Sixth Outing/Visit (Scheduled April 2013) iii. Third Seminar (scheduled May 2013) <p><u>6. Conclusion of the Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Production of “China and Globalization: The Interactive Teaching Tool” (completion scheduled August 2013) ii. Closing Ceremony (Scheduled September 2013) iii. Auditing of the project account (September 2013) 	<p>April 2013 to September 2013</p>	<p>\$634,560</p>
<p>Estimated completion date of project:</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	

F. Project Budget: Running from September 2011 to August 2013			
Projected Expenditure <i>(Please provide detailed breakdown under each item)</i>	Amount in HK\$ (Please refer to the Appendix for the detailed breakdown)		
	Year 1	Year 2	Total
a. Manpower			\$1,314,600
i. Full-time Project Officer	\$264,000	\$264,000	(\$528,000 +)
ii. Full-time Project Assistant	\$126,000	\$126,000	\$252,000 +
iii. Part-time Teaching Staff			\$ 534,600)
● 3 Lecturers for Development & Conduct of remedial courses	\$18,000	\$442,800	
● Lecturers for Trial of Teaching		\$73,800	
b. Equipment /Facilities	\$50,000		\$50,000
c. Services	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$80,000
● Construction, update and maintenance of project website & software			
d. General Expenses			\$280,320
i. Books and references	\$25,000	\$25,000	(\$50,000 +)
ii. Cost of organizing Opening and Closing Ceremonies	\$4,400	\$4,400	\$8,800 +
iii. Cost of organizing Public Talks	\$14,600	\$7,300	\$21,900 +
iv. Cost of organizing Seminars/Workshops	\$1,540	\$3,080	\$4,620 +
v. Cost of organizing Outings/Visits	\$9,400	\$18,800	\$28,200 +
vi. Photocopying	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$11,500 +
vii. Stationery	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$11,500 +
viii. Production of the final teaching package		\$100,000	\$100,000 +
ix. Other costs	\$27,600	\$16,200	\$43,800)
e. Others			\$64,080
i. Auditing		\$10,000	
ii. Contingency	\$27,040	\$27,040	
Total Expenditure :	\$617,580	\$1,171,420	\$1,789,000

Projected Income	Amount in HK\$					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
a. (e.g. fees received)						
b.						
c.						
Total Income :	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Sources of Funding

- a. Amount of grant sought under this application: \$1,789,000
- b. Other sources of funding (*this may include donations, contributions from the applicant/its parent organization, etc. Please give the name(s) of the sponsor(s), the amount of funding, and indicate whether the funding has been secured.*):
- (i) N/A
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____
- ... _____

G. Monitoring and Self-evaluation Mechanism

The outcomes of the project will be assessed by the following means:

- regular workshops and meetings between (i.) the Project Officer; (ii.) the Project Team; (iii.) the Advisory Committee; and (iv.) the frontline instructors/lecturers and the General Education/Liberal Studies course co-coordinators from the territory-wide post-secondary institutions;
- continuous assessment by the Advisory Committee on the key activities of the project;
- comments and feedbacks from the teaching staff who have used the materials on trial;
- questionnaires and comments from users who have attended the courses, public talks, off-campus activities, etc., and/or access the project's website;
- reports of the inspection staff attending all trials of teaching; and
- entry and progress tests for the students both before and after attending the class using the project's teaching and learning materials.

H. Management Support and Key Personnel Involved

Key personnel involved:

Dr. Law Yuk Fun, Senior Lecturer of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University, as person-in-charge and chief executive officer of the project;
Dr. Au Chi Kin, Assistant Professor of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University, as contact person and vice-executive officer of the project; and
Project Officer in charge of the Liberal Studies Development and Support Center (China and Globalization).

Management support includes:

Prof. Danny Paaui Shiu Lam, Head of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University;
Dr. Lo Wing Sang, Associate Head of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University;
History Teaching and Support Center of the Department of History of Hong Kong Shue Yan University;
Senior administrative officers of Hong Kong Shue Yan University; and
IT staff of Hong Kong Shue Yan University.

I. Special Justifications if the Grant Sought Exceeds \$2 million

N/A

III Other information

1 Project Sustainability (*If applicable, please describe how the recurrent expenditure involved will be met after completion of the proposed project*)

The requested funding of \$1,789,000 will cover all expenses of this two-year project, and hence no further recurrent expense is required. Upon completion, the project might consider having part of the outcomes published by local well-known educational publishers, or seeking further grants from other quality educational schemes, with a view of promoting teaching and learning effectiveness as well as complementing the current educational reform of developing Liberal Studies.

2 Preparatory work done (*If any*)

At present, the following preparatory work has been done:

- a. An eleven-chapter outline for the expected textbook, supplemented by teaching materials and tools for each chapter. The tentative outline is as follows:

Chapter 1	Introduction: Features of the Project
Chapter 2	What is Globalization?
Chapter 3	What are the features of China's development in the contemporary world?
Chapter 4	Globalization and Chinese Political Development
Chapter 5	Globalization and Chinese Economic Development
Chapter 6	Globalization and Chinese Social and Cultural Development
Chapter 7	Globalization and China's Energy, Resources and Environmental Protection
Chapter 8	Globalization and Challenges to China's Development
Chapter 9	Globalization and Opportunities of China
Chapter 10	Impacts of China on Globalization
Chapter 11	Conclusion and Prospects

- b. The Advisory Committee has been constituted, comprising one convener, two executive officers and one secretary from Hong Kong Shue Yan University, and 15 advisers from local educational community and two liberal studies experts from overseas institutions.
- c. A total of 12 guests, coming from local post-secondary educational and non-educational sectors, have preliminarily agreed to deliver speeches in the planned 3 public talks under the topics of "Globalization and China's Political Development"; "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources"; and "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development."
- d. A total of 6 institutions have preliminarily agreed to assist the planned 6 visits under the topics of "Globalization and China's Political Development"; "Globalization and China's Economy, Environment and Resources"; and "Globalization and China's Social and Cultural Development."
- e. The senior administrative officers of Hong Kong Shue Yan University agree to provide the Lady Lily Shaw Hall and conference rooms free of charge for the hosting of public talks, seminars/workshops and the opening and closing ceremonies.