

be instilled in our students. This course is adapted from a famous GE course given at the University of California, "Physics and Technology for Future Presidents". It will use HKBU's iClickers to immediately gauge the students' understanding, as well as Peer Instruction developed at Harvard by physicist Prof Eric Mazur.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1847/>

GDSC 1857 Service Leadership in Action (Health Services) (IGE) (3,3,0)

The aim of this course is to introduce the concepts of service leadership and their actualization in health services, with particular emphasis on Chinese medicine. It is envisaged that through the sharing of experiences from stakeholders of the different sectors of health services in Hong Kong, it will provide a foundation for the students to draw up a service leadership business plan and deliver services in health care with competence, responsibilities and care in the future.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1857/>

GDSC 1866 Music, Science, and the Sublime (IGE) (3,2,1)

The first half of the course will be devoted to an historical overview of the topic and establishing a commonality of key concepts and vocabulary for student of differing backgrounds. The second half of the course will comprise a series of more in-depth lectures, demonstrations and field trips on topics taken predominantly from the last 20 years, as well as topics germane to student's interest and backgrounds, and the availability of guest lecturers on those topics. All students will have the opportunity of creating their own, scientifically inspired aesthetic objects of music, visual arts, poetry, graphics, and/or other art forms.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1866/>

GDSC 1887 Paths to Service Leadership in Health Services (IGE) (3,3,0)

Service leadership is about providing high quality caring service. Since "the Server is the Service", the emphasis of this course is on the quality of the server. Through a review of the different care services such as those provided by Christian Care Services in Hong Kong over the past years, and an insight into the ethos behind such services, the different elements of service and leadership competencies including knowledge, skills, values, communication and attitudes will be introduced. Special emphasis will also be on health communication involving healthcare personnel, administrators, the community and the media.

In the course students will be given opportunities to put what they have learned through serving in two host organizations to the needy groups in the community.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1887/>

GDSC 1895 Digital and Social Media Engagement (IGE) (3,3,0)

The course examines the major themes and debates in different disciplines and in different time periods that have shaped human civilization. After the course, students will have a better understanding of our society as a global and complex phenomenon. From scientific prose to love poems, to documentary films and to detective stories, the course also focuses on how language is used to convey some controversial ideas and themes. At least two themes will be chosen, depending on students' preferences and the expertise of instructor/guest speakers and can cover a range of topics such as evolution, gender, love, violence, utopia, environment, globalization and human rights. The focus is on how to integrate insights from different disciplines in order to address an important problem or issue. Through the reading of a range of works drawn from different disciplines, students will also improve their reading, writing and argumentation skills.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1895/>

GDSC 1906 Becoming Critically Thoughtful Cyberworld Citizens (IGE) (3,2,1)

This course will provide the opportunity for challenging discussions and explorations of the complex social and ethical

issues introduced by the cyber-world, so that students gain perspectives on how to become responsible cyber-citizens. It begins by providing students a brief introduction to ethical concepts, ethical theories, and critical thinking. Supported by numerous case studies and discussion sessions, AV materials and special seminars and forums, this course covers a wide range of topics including computer security, privacy, intellectual property right, intellectual commons and freedom of speech that would enhance the student's interaction with and participation in the larger society through the cyber-world. The interesting evolution of the cyber-world or cyber-space from private relationship domains into the unique public arena will be explored. Social and ethical issues including professional ethics, cyber-crime, cyber-law, the digital divide, as well as others introduced by emerging cyber-technologies will be discussed. Particular attention will be paid to the notion that technology is neutral in the cyber-world. Through lectures and discussion sessions, students will develop a critical mind and suitable value perspectives to become responsible cyber-citizen to face this rapidly changing information age and its various emerging technologies.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1906/>

GDSC 1907 Can we Stop Believing in Magic? (IGE) (3,1,2)

This course is for all students. It provides students with an understanding of some evolutionary, biological, social, philosophical, and psychological explanations of how and why humans believe what they believe. The course further aims to make students familiar with the scientific method and to be able to use it to test the validity of commonly held beliefs, including their own.

The course introduces the students to some interdisciplinary concepts about knowledge. It overviews the evolutionary development of the human mind in relation to how and why we form beliefs, and provides biological explanations. It then explains a number of social, philosophical and psychological reasons behind our formation of beliefs. After that, it introduces the scientific method and its position within the broader concepts of rationalism and empiricism. It then explains how the scientific method can be used to test some beliefs but not others, and how this can be determined. The role of testimony will also be discussed in relation to the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Examples of commonly-held beliefs are then illustrated, and explanations are given as to why people believe such things even in the face of compelling counter evidence. Examples are then given of individuals and societies that have experienced drastic changes in their beliefs (e.g., individuals changing from one believing in one religion to another, or going from atheist to religious or religious to atheist; society going from believing the earth is flat to knowing it is spherical, or going from believing the sun revolves around the earth to knowing the earth revolves around the sun, etc.). Guided by students' own interests and input, a number of current commonly-held beliefs (e.g., "Chinese medicine works"; "ghosts exist"; "global warming is a left-wing conspiracy"; "the 'war on terror' is what its name implies," etc.) are then presented for discussion, evaluation, and (where possible) testing.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1907/>

GDSS 1005 Coping with Life Challenges (3,2,1)

This course will introduce background knowledge on the processes involved in adjustment of individuals to their personal and social environments. Students will explore key theories, concepts and techniques in psychology concerning personal growth and behaviour change. Topics covered include personality, aspects of the self, stress, social influence, interpersonal attraction and communication, emotional expression, transition and trauma, gender roles and differences, sexual expression, workplace challenges and developing healthier behaviours. Techniques for managing stress, reducing anxiety, coping with anger, increasing assertiveness, and achieving self-control are considered in this course.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1005/>

GDSS 1006 Striving for Sustainability: Education about, in, and for the Environment in Various Contexts (3,3,0)

The course will begin by tracing the origin of environmentalism and the ideas of sustainable development and environmental sustainability. Students will learn about the theories and practices behind the acquisition of environment-friendly knowledge, skills and values. Students will explore education for sustainability (EfS)/ environmental education (EE) in schooling systems of Hong Kong and other places. The course will analyse other agencies' efforts to transmit pro-environment and sustainability messages, and to operate related activities, such as organic farm visits organized by green NGOs, tree planting sponsored by corporations, and waste recycling drive led by neighbourhood groups.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1006/>

GDSS 1007 Education, Schooling and Society (3,2,1)

The course aims at enhancing students' knowledge and understanding of the relationship between school and society and the sociological concepts pertaining to education. It provides students with the conceptual tools to analyse educational issues and school practices from different sociological perspectives. Emphasis will be put on fostering students' awareness of the issues embedded in the relationship between school and society.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1007/>

GDSS 1015 Interacting with the Past—Museum, Heritage Sites and Cultural Policy in Hong Kong (3,3,0)

Museums and heritage sites are favourite and respected resources for learning worldwide. Field trip to various heritage sites is a teaching pedagogy that draws on experiential learning.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1015/>

GDSS 1016 Internet Identities, New Media Literacies and Ethics (3,2,1)

This course generates deeper understandings about Internet participation and how its shift into the cultural mainstream raises ethical and identity challenges for young people. In the virtual frontiers of new digital media landscapes—Google, Facebook, MySpace, Flickr, YouTube, Twitter, Virtual worlds, multi-player online games and blogs—a number of issues emerge related to identity, privacy, authorship and ownership, credibility and participation. It examines the redefining of individuals' actions both morally and socially, thus challenging moral concepts and social practices and raises debate about citizenship, freedom, democracy, privacy, and responsibility.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1016/>

GDSS 1017 Languages in Contact in Hong Kong (3,2,1)

This course enhances the awareness of students on the contact-induced language innovations found in local Cantonese. The subtle changes in Hong Kong Cantonese (e.g. new words, expressions and sentence structure) will be addressed. The issue of language innovation and variations will be discussed within the framework of languages-in-contact, underpinned by sociolinguistic theory by describing language use as a social phenomenon. Students will conduct project study to demonstrate signs of innovations in Hong Kong Cantonese as a result of language contact in such a lively society.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1017/>

GDSS 1025 Positive Personal Growth and Development (3,2,1)

The course provides an overview of major theories, concepts, and principles in education and psychology that can be applied to personal growth and development. Different issues related to leisure, morality, well-being and adjustment will be examined. It provides opportunities for students to develop a deeper understanding of their own lives and goals by applying personal adjustment concepts. Emphasis will be on application for students' personal development in the Chinese cultural context.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1025/>

GDSS 1027 Social Behaviours in Everyday Life (3,2,1)

This course aims to provide students with background knowledge on the relationship between individuals and the groups to which they belong so that they gain a better understanding of how people interact with and think about others. Through this course, students look closely at social behaviours in everyday life in order to uncover some of the taken for granted assumptions and knowledge people share (or do not share) with other members of the society. Students will study a range of social issues to examine the impact of social factors and situational variables that influence human development and social interactions/behaviours.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1027/>

GDSS 1035 Geography, Information Technology and Modern Life (3,3,0)

This course is designed to (1) provide an introduction to the geo-spatial information technology, including GIS, GPS and remote sensing; (2) raise the awareness of availability of the modern technology for geographical studies through publicly available resources; (3) understand techniques and applications of the geo-spatial information in modern daily life; and (4) demonstrate the impacts on and applications of the geo-spatial technology to the society.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1035/>

GDSS 1037 People and Environment (3,3,0)

Students are introduced to the processes and problems associated with the physical environment in which people live, and examines how humans, in turn, influence and control their surroundings. Contemporary problems such as global warming, ozone depletion and desertification are examined. Special emphasis is given to examples from Hong Kong and China.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1037/>

GDSS 1045 Project C: Building a Vibrant Community (3,3,0)

Investigating different communities in Hong Kong, this course will guide students through the social labyrinth of rapid economic and social changes and understand the way that particular places foster successful social network and initiative. Customs, traditions, social networks, memories, values and sense of place are essential elements of valuable community life. How do these elements being cultivated? How could we capitalize these elements to rebuild our community and urban life? Focusing on personal mechanisms, this course seeks to lead student to develop a new "people centre" way for urban development.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1045/>

GDSS 1046 Comparative Politics of the Cinema (3,2,1)

This course explores how the nature of political discourse and political history are reflected in and affected by the cinema. Movies on common themes and in common categories (such as wartime propaganda films or films on national tragedies) from various national cinemas will be screened and compared. Films of global impact (such as *Triumph of the Will*) will be shown and dissected in terms of political symbolism, cultural resonance, and consequent actions and reactions. Students will learn the techniques of emotional manipulation and political messaging associated with the cinema of various nationalities and cultural histories.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1046/>

GDSS 1047 Contemporary World Politics and Global Issues (3,2,1)

Emphasizing general social sciences approaches to understanding human behavior, events, and society, the course aims to introduce students to basic actors, concepts and issues in contemporary world politics with. The course will provide opportunities for students to use emerging technologies that facilitate active participation in political discussions and events, e.g. blogs, wikis, mobile applications.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1047/>

GDSS 1055 The World of Contemporary Europe (3,2,1)

The course will examine major cultural, social, political and economic aspects of the contemporary European world, their historical determinants, and likely trajectories of future developments. Particular emphasis will be placed on the search for commonalities both in Europe and between Europe and the students' home societies. Main challenges of the 21st century, such as citizens' welfare, sustainable ("green") economies and the nurturing of cultural diversity, are not only similar across countries but will have to be addressed in a context of international cooperation.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1055/>

GDSS 1056 What is Political Science about? (3,2,1)

Emphasizing general social sciences approach to understanding human behavior, events, and society, the course aims to introduce students to the rudimentary of political science. As a social science subfield, political science is closely related to other subfields such as history, human geography, economics, sociology, anthropology or psychology. Political science though, focuses on a wide spectrum of power-related issues, therefore providing us with answers other subfields are unable to offer.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1056/>

GDSS 1057 Critical Approaches to Hong Kong History since 1945 (3,2,1) (C)

This course makes use of social sciences concepts to critically examine the major historical processes that shape the political, economic, intellectual, social and cultural changes in Hong Kong since 1945. The major historical processes that Hong Kong has gone through since 1945 included the questions about crises of political legitimacy, economic development, urban and social changes, and cultural interactions with China and the globe. Concerning the debates over changing political legitimacy in Hong Kong, this course covers the salient features of British colonialism, democratization debates since late 1940s, the transitional period that led to the handover, and the subtlety of "one country, two systems". It thus aims to shed light on the historical factors that shape the current political scenarios. Besides, the course investigates into the material progress, such as industrialization, the emergence of Hong Kong as a major player in global trade and financial market, changes in urban and rural landscape, before discussing non-material changes (e.g. religions, cultural hybridity, educational changes) in detail. Special attention will be paid to scrutinize different assumptions behind the contributions of leading conceptual frameworks and/or school of thoughts in relevant topics and to facilitate students' learning by the use of empirical data, such as different kinds of archival and historical sources.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1057/>

GDSS 1065 Eminent Figures in the History of Various Disciplines and Professions (3,2,1)

This course will guide students to look at experience of great figures in various disciplines and professions including science, medicine, arts, law, architecture, business, etc. The lives, the works and achievements of chosen historical figures in different fields will be examined. Students will be able to understand their times, their life-world and their wisdom. Students should also benefit from the practice of applying historical approaches to the study of various disciplines.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1065/>

GDSS 1066 Issues and Controversies in Modern European History (3,2,1)

This subject surveys environmental, economic, intellectual, social and political changes in Europe since the 15th century, including climatic development, secularization, urbanization, industrialization, migrations, democratization, globalization, etc., in order to show what Europeans of the last several centuries faced in common, how they responded to these changes and what their descendants today inherit. Utilizing a rather socio-economic approach, the course begins with the investigation of

the environmental changes and material progress in this period, before discussing non-material changes (religious, political, etc.) in detail. Emphasis will also fall on the changing role of Europe in the global context, where Europe and other continents were integrated into one single entity in the modern era.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1066/>

GDSS 1067 Coping with Stress (3,2,1)

This course aims to acquaint students with key elements of stress management. Topics will include the recognition of stress symptoms, causes of stress, stress-related disorders, different techniques for releasing tension and the benefits of stress management. Stress management techniques, as well as selected physical exercises, will be introduced in practical sessions as different means to handling stress in order to gain a healthier and more productive life.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1067/>

GDSS 1075 Fashion and Society (3,3,0)

Although Hong Kong is one of the major centers of fashion consumption and production in the world, fashion is seldom recognized here as a serious topic of study. This course will provide a chance for students to systematically learn the philosophy of fashion and sociocultural aspects of fashion in Hong Kong, China, and elsewhere. The course will focus particularly on theoretical questions of the nature, diffusion, production, consumption, and social implications of fashion. While the course will adopt a sociological perspective as its main interpretive framework, it will also introduce historical, philosophical, and cultural studies approaches to complement the analysis.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1075/>

GDSS 1076 Food and Foodways in Modern Society (3,3,0)

This course introduces the meanings of food and eating from sociology and anthropology perspectives. It looks at how food and food habits reveal social structure, cultural changes, identity, gender, beliefs, etc. in different societies.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1076/>

GDSS 1085 Love, Intimacy, and Identity (3,3,0)

Drawing on the perspectives in sociology, this course examines the changing meanings of love and intimacy and their importance in shaping the identities of individuals. It will start with a cross-cultural investigation of the notions of love and intimacy, followed by discussions of the transformation of intimacy in (late-)modern society. Emphasis will be laid on the significant changes in the sphere of intimacies particularly in relation to the commodification of love, sex and body modification, the advent of the internet, and the rise of the sexual revolution and the sexual rights movement.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1085/>

GDSS 1086 Tourism, Culture and Society (3,3,0)

This course examines tourism from anthropological and sociological perspectives. It introduces different forms of tourism and their characteristics, and how they reveal such issues as cultural nostalgia, heritage preservative and management, sustainability, nationalism and imperialism, gender and sexism, and culture identity.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1086/>

GDSS 1087 Understanding Chinese Society in Hong Kong and the Mainland (3,3,0)

This course introduces traditional and changing forms of social organizations and cultural traditions in Chinese society, particularly in Hong Kong and the mainland. Also, it discusses and evaluates those issues relating to such as family, kinship, community organization, gender, marriage, religion, and identity in rapidly changing socio-economic and political contexts in Hong Kong and China.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1087/>

GDSS 1105 Transformation of Self in Contemporary Hong Kong Society (3,3,0)

This course introduces students to the issue of self identity at personal, social, national and global levels, as well as from racial, ethnic, gender, and class positions. It focuses on the discussion of social dimensions of self-growth and development in the Hong Kong context and how people's identities are constructed, contested, lost and transformed within the changing contexts of family, society, and the world.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/GDSS-1105/>

GDSS 1806 Cityscapes: Hong Kong Neighbourhoods, Urban Voices, and Other Tales of the City (IGE) (3,2,1)

This course will integrate the teaching of basic ethnographic techniques of Hong Kong city spaces with narratives and stories about Hong Kong written in English. Students will learn to gather contemporary (survey and other) data about the community they call home, in addition to situate their findings within a larger historical context of how Hong Kong has been represented in English literature in the more recent (colonial) past, as well as by Hong Kong artists and other writers expressing themselves using English today.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1806/>

GDSS 1807 Energy, Environment and Sustainability (IGE) (3,3,0)

Climate change and the depletion of energy resources are issues of major international concern in the contemporary world. This course aims to introduce the diverse facets of contemporary energy problems and their associated environmental dilemmas, such as air pollution, waste disposal and climate change. The course will adopt several lively approaches designed to enhance the teaching of relevant facts and concepts, from a layman's perspective. This will focus on the multiple and intricate relationships that occur between energy, environment and sustainability issues. In addition to classroom learning, the teaching will be supplemented by field visits, demonstrations, group projects and debates.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1807/>

GDSS 1817 Religion in the Development of City Space and City Life (IGE) (3,2,1)

In this course, students will learn how religions act as the powerhouse of city development and city life in selected parts of world. Students are led to recognize that, beside secular ideologies and economic, political, population and cultural necessities, religions have always played a pivotal role in people's imagination and in the construction of city life and city space. Students would be invited to utilize concepts and methodologies learnt from the course to conduct value critique and ethical reflections on contemporary urban development.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1817/>

GDSS 1836 Creativity 101 (IGE) (1,1,0)

The course objective is to improve individual's creativity and innovative skill by strengthening one's mindset in observation, curiosity seeking, association, visualization, out-of-box thinking and the ability to capture the flash of brilliance.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1836/>

GDSS 1845 Videogames and Arts (IGE) (3,3,0)

The course aims to provide an introduction to the study of games, videogames as an art form in particular, as well as understanding games as a business, a cultural phenomenon and technological invention. The game design process will be introduced as a way to enhance problem solving skills and creativity. Students will be required to design a new game using the principles learnt in class and at the same time to address social issues that related to their everyday life experience.

In the course, students will learn about gaming theory (ludology) and the ways it applies to videogames, and as well as the fields of art, business and technology about videogames. Audio and visual elements in videogames are obvious creative content. Game in

general is also a popular medium and strategy in contemporary art production, since 1960s. Interactive art and design in the digital era often displays game like characteristics. The study of videogames in the art context will provide students an alternative perspective to understand the gaming experience they are familiar with, and to encourage inter-disciplinary thinking.

The course covers the aesthetics of games in the areas of genres, graphics, storytelling, gaming theory, interactivity, and contemporary social issues. Upon completion of the courses, students will be prepared to reflect upon their own daily gaming practices from more critical and creative perspectives.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1845/>

GDSS 1855 Celebrity and Entertainment Business (IGE) (3,2,1)

More than just as a spokesperson of a product/brand, celebrities and figures of fame play an important role in the creative sector to date. This course maps the increasingly central importance of fame and celebrity from a mass communication and marketing perspective. In this course, students will investigate the culture of celebrity in relation to entertainment, media, advocacy, identity and business models. It aims to introduce the phenomenon of stardom including some case studies of individual film, television, advertising, popular music and political stars, and to investigate the media influence of celebrities in a Chinese cultural context. This is fundamentally a preliminary course designed to help students think more critically about the intersection of entertainment and civic engagement in the new media era. It also aims to strengthen student's understanding of the culture of celebrity on the societal values and choices in a Chinese culture.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1855/>

GDSS 1857 Service Leadership in Action (Health Services) (IGE) (3,3,0)

The aim of this course is to introduce the concepts of service leadership and their actualization in health services, with particular emphasis on Chinese medicine. It is envisaged that through the sharing of experiences from stakeholders of the different sectors of health services in Hong Kong, it will provide a foundation for the students to draw up a service leadership business plan and deliver services in health care with competence, responsibilities and care in the future.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1857/>

GDSS 1865 Service Leadership and Emotional Intelligence (IGE) (3,2,1) (C)

In order to become successful service leaders, our students can be well-prepared before they take up caring positions in the community. A successful leader must possess abilities to understand self and others, to inspire and build strong relationships and to respond effectively to the situations that one is engaged in. This course thus brings together two significant components of service leadership, namely leadership and emotional intelligence (EI) through the joint expertise of the Social Work Department and Counselling and Development Section, office of Student Affairs. We believe that to prepare students to become mature, capable and competent service leaders, there are essential knowledge, attitudes and skills to be examined and learned in the areas of leadership and emotional intelligence, and to apply them to real life situations.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1865/>

GDSS 1867 Children as Consumers: Marketing to the Youth (IGE) (3,2,1)

Children and youth are future of the society. Due to the prolonged period of education, the position of youth had become increasingly ambiguous. The course aims at introducing the different perspectives and often competing interest among marketers, parents, educators, and policy makers regarding communication to children and youth. The course will begin with the changing concepts of childhood and the position of children and youth in a social context. It continues with the cognitive and affective responses toward commercial communication, as well

as development of the understanding of brands among children and youth consumers. Parental and peer influence and the role of marketers and legislators will be explored. Ethical issues considered by media executives, marketers, parents, citizens, and the government regarding children as consumers will be discussed. The course will conclude by examining concerns related with undesirable consequences of advertising to children and youth consumers, such as unhealthy eating, gender stereotyping, and materialism.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1867/>

GDSS 1875 Uncovering the Stories of Brands (IGE) (3,2,1)

The objective of this course aims to motivate students to think critically on diverse cultural and social issues. This course introduces students to the interplay of brands and perceptions in our daily lives. Emphasis is placed on studying the interwoven relationships among brands communication, society and consumers. The course aims to expand students' critical thinking through studying various brand stories from historical, social, economic and cultural perspectives. Through different theories and case studies, students will have a deeper understanding of how brands play a significant role in our social and identity transfiguration. Students are also able to research, analyze, integrate and criticize various brands stories and social development, and further apply the knowledge to their study and professional development.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1875/>

GDSS 1876 Psychology of Positive Living (IGE) (3,3,0) (C)

The course is intended to introduce students' basic concepts and knowledge of psychology of positive living. It is concerned with the scientific study of different aspect of human functioning including behaviors, thoughts, emotions, learning and personality as well as factors that enable individuals to flourish and achieve positive living, with an aim to promoting students' self-understanding, knowledge and potentials in positive emotions, resilience, creativity and character strengths. The course is composed of two parts: (1) introduction of basic concepts and knowledge of psychological study on human functioning; and (2) introduction of the key concepts and knowledge of positive psychology, with the joint expertise of the Social Work Department and Counseling and Development Section, Office of Student Affairs.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1876/>

GDSS 1877 Dream Interpretation for Personal Growth (IGE) (3,2,1)

This course seeks to broaden and deepen students' understanding of what it means to experience personal growth toward the goal of becoming a "whole person". We will examine various psychological, philosophical, and scientific theories regarding personal growth in general, with special focus on the nature and possible meanings of dreams. Students will learn to recall, record, and interpret their own dreams while completing a ten week "dream diary" project. The semester will conclude with several weeks when students will be encouraged to appreciate how evil, love, religion, and the meaning of life, are reflected in human dreams.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1877/>

GDSS 1885 Major Themes and Debates in Society (IGE) (3,3,0)

The course examines the major themes and debates in different disciplines and in different time periods that have shaped human civilization. After the course, students will have a better understanding of our society as a global and complex phenomenon. From scientific prose to love poems, to documentary films and to detective stories, the course also focuses on how language is used to convey some controversial ideas and themes. At least two themes will be chosen, depending on students' preferences and the expertise of instructor/guest speakers and can cover a range of topics such as evolution, gender, love, violence, utopia, environment, globalization and human rights. The focus is on how to integrate insights from different

disciplines in order to address an important problem or issue. Through the reading of a range of works drawn from different disciplines, students will also improve their reading, writing and argumentation skills.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1885/>

GDSS 1896 Soundscape Studies and Hong Kong Culture (IGE) (3,3,0)

Soundscape Studies investigate the relation of an acoustic environment and the behavioral characteristics of humans living within it. They explore how people create, interpret and interact with sounds in everyday-life. Doing so soundscape studies link up artists, cultural studies researchers and anthropologists. This course aims at introducing this cross-disciplinary practice to students as a new trajectory to understand and reflect upon Hong Kong culture – through listening to its acoustic communities.

In this course, students will learn about the origins of soundscape studies, their theory and practices and in what ways they influence musicians, media artists and culture researchers. Also, they will 'unlearn' relying on sight as their primary sense, and 'relearn' the ability of listening. To achieve this a major focus of the course is on students conducting site-specific fieldwork to explore the idea of acoustic communities and their specific soundmarks. This will familiarize students with ethnographic research approaches, and will help them to develop their own critical position on cultural and social issues.

The practices exercised throughout this course can subsequently be applied in various fields of studies including anthropology, sociology, communication and creative arts.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1896/>

GDSS 1916 The Material Life of Things: The Life Mean and Value of Objects (IGE) (3,3,0)

Objects are the material leftover of human experiences, speaking to us about how our ancestors oriented themselves in the world. This course attempts to explore the concepts of material culture in order to contextualize place, identity and heritage in both a personal sense and within the large cultural boundaries and extend students' knowledge and experience beyond their major study.

Exploring the formal qualities, functions and histories of 'things' – ranging from personal items, works of art, geographical places of memories, monuments, and landscapes – using current examples of case studies and events in Hong Kong, this course discusses how objects shape our culture and how the material world is integral to meaning-making processes. By considering material culture of artifacts from the past, it introduces material culture theories from various disciplines, including anthropology, cultural studies, social sciences, art history and art theories, to critically study objects within a cultural, social and historical context. Students will examine objects and explore how their own personal history, interweaves with the social life of things, within a wider perspective of cultures.

This course will enable students to consider, how heritage objects can be a part of their own memories, what objects they would like to preserve, and how the presence of the past shapes, and has shaped, the cultural life of Hong Kong, with particular attention on interdisciplinary and/or community issues and situations. Through the study of tangible and intangible heritage, students will have better understanding about their personal experiences within the context of local history, and the significances of heritage preservation in embodying the civil values and sustainable development of Hong Kong.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1916/>

GDSS 1917 Aesthetics in Human Movement (IGE) (3,2,1)

A mini lecture-laboratory interdisciplinary course designed to explore interactions between physical movement forms (e.g. sports and dance) and creative photography. Students will use their bodies as a tool in exploring design elements of shape, force, space, and time. They will apply these elements to build aesthetic work in movement performance and photography. Students will learn how to construct photographic meaning, aesthetic composition, and colour balancing. They will also learn the basic

techniques of digital camera work, proper digital workflow, and editing control in visualizing their visions. Students working together will explore how human movement aesthetics is as much a social as a physical experience.

Ideal for students with interests in dance and photography but have little to no previous experience in both disciplines. Camera device (e.g. mobile phone or compact camera) is advised.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1917/>

GDSS 1925 Language and Service Leadership (IGE)(3,2,1)

Based on the fundamental idea that language is a form of action, this course aims to introduce students to the concept of service leadership through the understanding and use of language--not only as used by linguists, but also by prominent individuals throughout history. As the title suggests, a leader is not merely a specific person but, rather, may be constituted of a collection of "qualities", "roles", and "identities" as constructed through the most fundamental means of communication – language. This communicative approach foregrounds the idea that "leadership" can be performed by anyone who has a good understanding of its qualities, and that the following concept of "service leadership" may also be recognised, discussed, and put into action by individuals in a dynamic way.

This first part of this course focuses on the multi-faceted relationship between language and leadership. Through the application of various linguistics theories to different real life cases, students will gain a solid understanding of the ways in which service leadership is understood, constructed, and performed through the use of language. The second part builds from the first, by applying the theories and concepts learned to the understanding of the concept of a 'leader' in different fields and contexts, and by analysing how leaders are portrayed by others, as well as how they portray themselves. The course concludes by having students apply their knowledge through various teaching and learning activities.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1925/>

GDSS 1926 Service Leadership and Meaning of Life and Death (IGE) (3,3,0)

This course aims to help deepen the understanding of meaning of life through both service-leadership learning and in-depth discussion and reflection upon issues related but not limited to death and dying.

It intends not just to offer theoretical and ethical knowledge about meaning of life and death but also to provide hands-on experience with practical application and invite in-depth reflection through fostering learners' service leadership competencies. In this course, students are trained to develop better understanding of guiding ethical principles concerning meaning of life and death. With the intention to help develop learners' character strengths and a caring social disposition and service orientation, the students are provided with chances to have hands-on experience through service leadership learning. Simply put, this course does not intend to limit itself to abstract theory and ethical reasoning but also seeks to cover emotional aspects and practical skills so as to help students to be better prepared to understand and to face with matters like suicide, grief, bereavement, loss etc. Also, they will apply their knowledge and skills to clients through designing and implementing service projects so as to help develop their capacity as service leaders. Therefore, practical knowledge and skills drawn from different disciplines such as sociology, social work, psychology etc. will be introduced throughout the course especially service learning to supplement both cognitive, emotional, and service aspects in teaching this course. Such an approach involves philosophical and religious reflection together with practical knowledge and skills borrowed from social sciences, therefore this course is interdisciplinary in nature. However, this course does not intend to deal directly with adversities the learners faced or facing. Students with these needs are encouraged to seek for professional assistance. Rather, this course tries to approach life and death issues indirectly through reflection on theories and concrete cases selected.

To supplement classroom teaching, this course also adopts an

experiential approach so that the students could be benefited from providing service to one or two partner institutions helping needy groups in the community. It is expected that through paying visits and offering services, the students can be benefited from these hands-on experience in various ways including reflection on life attitude, strengthening of caring motivation and enhancement of understanding of importance of providing service to the community.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1926/>

GDSS 1927 From Responsible Citizenship to Service Leadership (IGE) (3,3,0)

Citizenship is recognized as an important constituent for civil society and social development. This course aims to develop students' sense of citizenship and motivate them to influence the community with this spirit through service leadership. Sociological and ethical understanding of responsible citizenship will be explicated with theories and examples in Hong Kong. Through the analysis, the different elements of service and leadership competencies including knowledge, attitudes, values, awareness of service needs, skills, and communication will be introduced.

Service leadership and management reveal that a large part of our lives is spending in service to others. Good citizenship in society unavoidably will be achieved through service. This course aims to equip students with a sensitive awareness of service needs in the community and a good service leadership attitude in terms of good citizenship.

Experiential learning will be emphasized in this course. Besides lectures, real life scenarios will be used for group discussions and role-plays. Community/organization visits will be organized to give students an opportunity to identify the service needs and suggest viable service plans for meeting the needs. After further discussion and planning, students will do service in host organizations. The process of exploring service needs, planning activities, delivering the services according to plan, and an evaluation of the result of the services together with a reflection of one's attitude and motivation will give the students the first-hand experience of service leadership as responsible citizens. In this course, two values of good citizenship will be highlighted: integrity (anti-corruption) and fairness.

<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1927/>

GDSS 1937 Improving Mental Health for University Success (IGE) (3,1,2) (C)

In order to maximize the learning and development for university students, it's essential for them to have effective coping skills and sufficient resilience capacity for stress management. This course is designed to help university students identify stressors experienced in their university life, understand stress process and responses and to better manage their challenges in university life by learning and applying skills of cognitive behavior intervention and adventure training.

This course will be jointly delivered by the Department of Social Work and Counseling and Development Centre, Office of Student Affairs. It consists of three parts. The first part is lectures on basic concepts of university adjustment and mental health of university students, theories of stress and coping, and theoretical framework and models of cognitive behavioral intervention. In the second part, students will be divided into 2-3 groups for skills workshops. A variety of cognitive behavioral skills will be introduced to students and demonstrate how to apply these skills to cope with their university stress. The skills workshop will be conducted in the form of stress management and coping skills training, demonstrations and skills practice. The third part is adventure-based activities, including a one-day camp of adventure training. In this part, various adventure-based activities will be conducted to enhance students' self-awareness and confidence. Briefing and debriefing will be included in each session to facilitate students' self-reflection and self-understanding. The second and third parts will be led by experienced counselors and a team of experienced adventure trainers.

This course is characterized by interactive and experiential

learning experiences, integration of theory and application, teaching in a small group setting, and focus on applying the skills learned in class to cope with real life issues for students.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1937/>

GDSS 1945 Sharing Values: Interreligious Dialogue (3,2,1) on Real Issues in Real Life (IGE)

This interdisciplinary course aims to combine theoretical studies with experiential learning and reflection. The course will first introduce dialogical principles of deep-dialogue, critical-thinking, emotional-intelligence, and competitive-cooperation (Leonard J. Swidler), and then apply these principles to the discussion of some specific contemporary social issues from interreligious perspectives, such as environmental crisis, the gap between the rich and the poor, peace and religious violence, and gender equality and gay rights. The challenge of modernity and secular lifestyle to all religious traditions will be addressed as well.

The dialogical engagement of the course will also be supplemented by students' engagement in service leadership activities during the course, through which students will explore ways of taking action to create change and bridge differences at the interpersonal and social/community levels. Service activities will be an elective focus on one particular issue (environment, peace, poverty, gender or gay rights), according to the student's choice. Students will be assigned to work with relevant religious organizations and institutions in HK (Confucian, Buddhist, Daoist, Christian, and Islamic). The course will end with a mini conference on interreligious dialogue organized by students related to their experiences of service activities. Students will learn, through in-class studies and out-of-class activities that dialogue is not debate; dialogue requires learning to listen, asking critical questions of others and of oneself, and committing to understanding other perspectives and seeking cooperation.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1945/>

GDSS 1946 Service Leadership in Learning Communities (IGE) (3,3,0)

This course is intended for students of all academic disciplines. It is interdisciplinary by nature drawing on psychology, sociology and education. It aims to provide students with major theories of leadership (organizational psychology, sociology and business), service learning and learning community (education, management and sociology), and to equip them with necessary skills to act as service leaders in supporting youth undertaking community learning activities. The course will employ experiential and action learning approaches which are rooted in the integration of concepts and theories from the above-mentioned disciplines while involving in-class and out-of-class activities.

Under the context of the course, students will design and conduct community learning activities involving youth and older adults in different settings. After each activity, students will reflect on the experience collectively. Based on the reflection and what they have learned from the reflection, they will make plans for future activities and try them out. Through these learning experiences, students will analyze and apply the underlying principles of service leadership and appreciate their role in the process of community building. They will also develop critical awareness of the unique characteristics of the socio-cultural context and the processes of community building.

As part of the learning process, students are expected to allocate time off campus and outside lecture hours for planning and undertaking the community activities.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1946/>

GDSS 1947 Human Nature Through Poets' Eyes (3,2,1)

Poetry is often understood as one of the most direct and authentic modes of expression for individual experience, as a way of communicating private joys and sorrows. While the impulse behind poetic composition is usually individual, though, the completed work can also be examined in terms of social roles and relationships. Even after they are composed poems continue to circulate throughout society, being quoted and adapted for other purposes.

The course is organized around several topics both fundamental to human experience and also popular subjects for poetry. These are love poetry; mystical poetry; war poetry; and dramatic poetry. There is a creative interlude halfway through for students to experiment with composing their own poems.

The main poetic texts will be selected from literary traditions around the world, and presented in English translation. There will be an emphasis on the rich tradition of Chinese poetry, which can be read in either the original or translation, or both, depending on student interest.

Students will be expected to compose an original poem based closely on models presented in class; give a presentation on a poem that elucidates its cultural context; and write essays exploring the literary and sociocultural significance of particular poems.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1947/>

GDSS 1955 Observing and Reckoning: Protoscience and the Knowledge of Nature (IGE) (3,2,1)

This course aims to introduce students to the variety of ways that humans have strived to achieve accurate understanding of nature throughout history, by examining the common ground between traditional knowledge and the modern scientific practices which evolved from them.

Demonstrations will be based on the example of Chinese shushu ('techniques and calculations'), a broad range of divination-related disciplines based on the observation of pre-defined signs and on time reckoning calculations. While their application usually results in prognostication, some basic methods of shushu have been adopted as is by modern science.

To shed light on the process leading to a rigorous investigation of nature, examples from the history of science in Europe, such as the gradually autonomous evolution of astronomy out of astrology, will be presented as points of comparison.

The course will also show that divinatory and magical practices have not disappeared from contemporary societies, and will explore possible explanations for the coexistence of traditional methods with widely accepted scientific approaches.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1955/>

GDSS 1956 Service Leadership Practicum (IGE) (3,3,0)

This course aims to provide students with an opportunity to gain real-life working experience related to service learning and community engagement. Furthermore, this course goes beyond simply "participating in service-learning" by developing students leadership skills as they learn to work collaboratively with the community. Although, as novices, the students cannot be expected to strategically lead the NGO, they are expected to take the initiative to recognize opportunities for improvement (even if small) in the NGO, and lead the process of taking the improvement forward. Students therefore become engaged leaders who take responsibility for solving problems, making improvement and meeting the tangible needs of a defined community with competence, character, humility, and care. In doing so, they become familiar with the political, economic, and social forces that influence the survival and success of NPOs/NGOs, and how the NGO influences society.

This course represents a guided self-discovery learning experience for students. Although the placement, learning outcomes, and supervision are provided to students, within this broad framework students have the responsibility to explore, make the necessary connections, and understand. Under the guidance of both faculty and workplace supervisors, students will work in an NPO/NGO. The placement assignment is expected to take up no less than 120 hours to complete, and would not normally be paid. The exact distribution of the 120 hours is up to negotiation between the student and workplace supervisor. It may be more intensive, or less intensive. The only requirement is that the 120 hours be completed within the duration of this semester course. The distribution of the 120 hours, and the expected nature of the workplace tasks, must be signed off by student, faculty supervisor and workplace supervisor in the course registration form before the practicum commences. During the practicum the faculty

supervisor will make periodic site visits and phone calls to keep in regular contact with both the student and the workplace supervisor.
<http://ge.hkbu.edu.hk/course/IGE-1956/>

GEOG 1005 Geography and the Contemporary World (3,3,0)

The course deals with the complex physical and cultural realities of the world. It adopts a topical approach, encompassing major issues in the contemporary world and studies these issues from a geographical perspective. It is designed in a manner that helps students to understand the varied and complex environmental interactions of the Earth. The course also assists students in recognizing the diverse ways in which geography can open new horizons and contribute to the building of an environmentally and culturally sustainable world.

GEOG 2005 Cultures, Peoples and Landscapes (3,2,1)

The course examines how geographic location and people's cultural identities shape landscapes from both a physical setting and a symbolic construction point of view. Places or locations can be linked physically through processes of migration, tourism, trade, and investment, and represented (or "imagined") through media such as newspapers, film, music, art and literature. These processes are influenced by, and impact on, the natural and cultural landscapes.

GEOG 2006 Earth Systems: Shaping Landscapes (3,2,1)

This course is complementary with GEOG 2016 Earth Systems: Atmosphere and Biosphere and introduces geomorphology and the main facets that have contributed to the study of landforms. Emphases are placed on: plate tectonic theory, as a framework to explain the major relief features of eastern Asia; on common geological materials and structures that control landscape in Hong Kong; and on the processes of weathering, erosion and deposition that produce contrasting landscapes.

GEOG 2007 Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography (3,2,1)

This course provides an introduction into statistical analysis of geographic data. Through real-world examples from various topic areas of geography, students learn sampling methods, descriptive and inferential statistical techniques for analysing geographic data. Topics include hypothesis testing, spatial statistics, statistical relationships between variables, and how to generate, summarize and present geographic data, etc. The course will assist students in developing a knowledge basis for understanding more advanced methods of geographic analysis.

GEOG 2015 Cartography (3,2,2)

Cartography is the art, science and technology of making maps. Maps are the communication media for geographers to express their views about our world, in a similar way that language is for literary authors. Understanding of map-making processes and mastering the skills of map-reading greatly enhance the presentation of geographical information in graphic format. Moreover, this format can be an effective tool for data analyses such as, for example, when examining the relationship between two distributions using simple transparent overlays. Students can apply such a mapping ability to their natural or social science courses or in their professional fields.

GEOG 2016 Earth Systems: Atmosphere and Biosphere (3,2,1)

This course seeks to provide understanding of the ecosystem essentials and the atmospheric processes governing weather and climate. The first part is a comprehensive analysis of the characteristics of vegetation on the earth's surface. Emphasis is placed on their distribution, and their significance in human's use of land. The second part introduces climatology. Emphases are placed on energy flow and temperature, atmospheric moisture,

atmospheric circulation, climate classification and climate change.

GEOG 2017 Globalization of Economic Activities (3,2,1)

This is an introductory course on economic geography. Students are first introduced to the basic features of economic globalization and their geographic ramifications. The course then describes in some detail the major forces and processes that underlie global production shifts, identifying the main actors involved and outlining the implications for the spatial organization of economic activities at various geographic scales: world, nation and region.

GEOG 2025 Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta: A Survey (3,2,1)

This course provides a comprehensive and lively guide to the history, culture, geography and economic development of South China. This objective is to be achieved by a series of well-organized lectures and tutorials. Field trips, both in Hong Kong and to the Pearl River Delta, which will provide an invaluable onsite experience to elaborate the types and magnitude of change in South China discussed in lectures, may be organized. It is hoped that this course will constitute an essential gateway to those wishing to acquire a deeper understanding of this dynamic corner of Asia.

GEOG 3005 Field Camp (0,*,*)

Field camp will be held during the second semester of a student's third year and covers a seven- to nine-day period. Usually it is based in China or Southeast Asia. A wide range of geographical field techniques are utilized in the collection of geographic information and for conducting field research into physical, cultural and developmental problems. While no grades or unit credits are given for this camp, the student must complete the programme to the department's satisfaction for graduation.

GEOG 3006 Regional Geography of China (3,3,0)

This is an introductory course on the geography of China. A regional approach is employed to provide students a comprehensive collection of topics over the physical setting, natural resources, population, urban and regional development, industrial and agricultural development, administrative system and geopolitics. These topics span across the time period before and after the country launched its economic reform. This course covers not only topics on social, economic and environmental issues, but also introduces a perspective to understand these activities and their changes.

GEOG 3007 Energy Problems and the Environment (3,3,0)

This course introduces students to the causes and effects of the energy problems which have arisen since 1973. The major sources of commercial energy—oil, coal and natural gas—are treated with respect to their special characteristics, exploration and development, major uses, world production pattern, pricing and trade. The special role of electricity, together with problems connected with nuclear power, is covered. Furthermore, the nature and ramifications of the 1973, 1980 and recent oil crises are discussed.

GEOG 3015 Geography of Health and the Environment (3,3,0)

Since ancient times, people have worked, lived and multiplied under a wide variety of environmental conditions. According to Chinese medical theory, human health is affected by a lack of equilibrium between body and its surrounding environment. This is especially the case where the ecology of the environment is abnormal. Consequently, geographic variability has long been an important aspect of health studies in both Eastern and Western cultures. This has been expressed in a variety of approaches ranging from geographic pathology to medical ecology, as well as disciplines such as geographical epidemiology, biometeorology, geomedicine, and so forth. The course provides an introduction to the concepts and techniques in the discipline of medical geography and to examine recent trends in the geographic variation of health.